

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



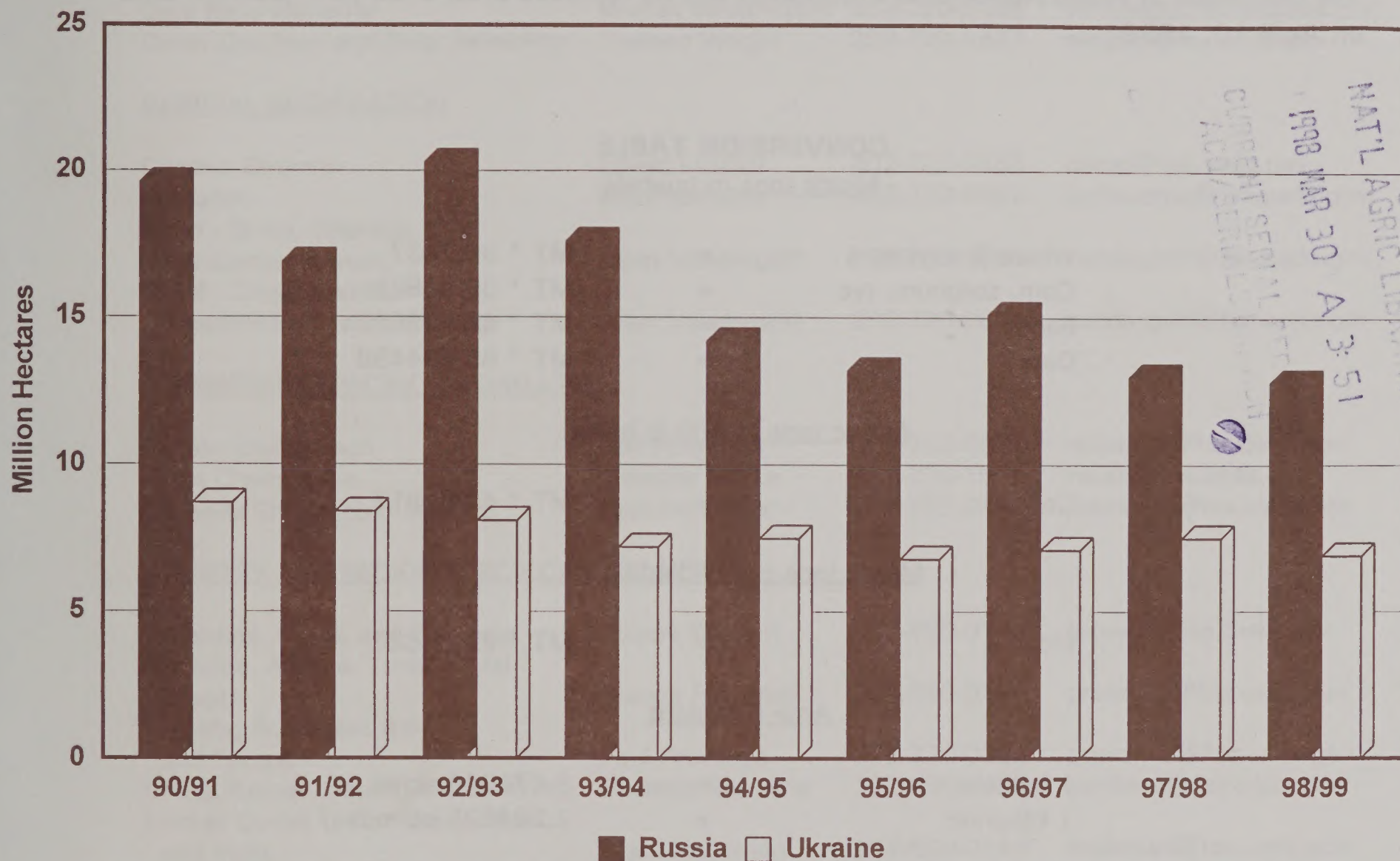
United States
Department of
Agriculture

Foreign
Agricultural
Service

Circular Series
WAP 03-98
March 1998

World Agricultural Production

Russia and Ukraine: Sown Winter-Grain Area



Production Articles This Month...

Russia and Ukraine Winter Grains

Paraguayan Cotton Situation

Northwest Africa Grain Situation

This report draws on information from USDA's global network of agricultural attaches and counselors, official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, and results of office analysis. Estimates of U.S. acreage, yield, and production are from the USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board, except where noted. This report is based on unrounded data; numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. This report reflects official USDA estimates released in the World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE-336), March 12, 1998.

This report was prepared by the Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division (PECAD), FAS/USDA, AgStop 1045, Washington, D.C. 20250-1045. Further information may be obtained by writing to the division, by calling (202) 720-0888, or by FAX (202) 720-8880.

The next issue of World Agricultural Production will be released after 3:30 p.m. Eastern time on April 10, 1998.

CONVERSION TABLE

Metric tons to bushels

Wheat & soybeans	=	MT * 36.7437
Corn, sorghum, rye	=	MT * 39.36825
Barley	=	MT * 45.929625
Oats	=	MT * 68.894438

Metric tons to 480-lb bales

Cotton	=	MT * 4.592917
--------	---	---------------

Metric tons to hundredweight

Rice	=	MT * 22.04622
------	---	---------------

Area & Weight

1 hectare	=	2.471044 acres
1 kilogram	=	2.204622 pounds

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA's Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

For Information Contact:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service
Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division
Room 6053, South Building
Washington D.C. 20250
Telephone: (202) 720-0888
Fax: (202) 720-8880

CIRCULAR PUBLICATION

		<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Circular Coordinator	Ron Roberson	202-720-0879	roberson@fas.usda.gov
Word Processing	Mary Jackson	202-720-0888	jacksonma@fas.usda.gov
Data Base Manager	Marnet Whittington	202-720-0886	whittington@fas.usda.gov
Cover Graphics and Data Reliability	Theresa Wright	202-720-8887	wrightt@fas.usda.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Division Director	Edwin I Cissel	202-720-0888	cissel@fas.usda.gov
Secretary	Mary Jackson	202-720-0888	jacksonma@fas.usda.gov
Chief - Grain, Oilseeds, and Cotton Branch	Allen Vandergriff	202-720-0865	vandergriff@fas.usda.gov
Chief - Crop Condition Assessment Branch (Acting)	Allen Vandergriff	202-720-0865	vandergriff@fas.usda.gov

COMMODITY SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Cotton Chairperson	Ron Roberson	202-720-0879	roberson@fas.usda.gov
Grain Chairperson	Timothy Rocke	202-720-1572	rocke@fas.usda.gov
Oilseeds Chairperson (Acting)	Paul Provance	202-720-0882	provance@fas.usda.gov

COUNTRY AND REGION SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay	Robert Tetrault	202-690-0140	tetrault@fas.usda.gov
Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, and Egypt	Brenda Pressnall	202-690-0139	pressnall@fas.usda.gov
Canada, Southeast Asia, and Europe	Paul Provance	202-720-0882	provance@fas.usda.gov
China, Koreas, Japan, and S. Africa	Paulette Sandene	202-690-0133	sandene@fas.usda.gov
Former Soviet Union, Bangladesh, and India	Mark Lindeman	202-690-0143	lindeman@fas.usda.gov
Mexico and United States	Ron White	202-690-0137	whiter@fas.usda.gov
Middle East and United States	John Turner	202-690-0138	turnerj@fas.usda.gov
United States and Int'l Weather	Carl Gernazio	202-690-0136	gernazio@fas.usda.gov
Australia, Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan	Jim Crutchfield	202-690-0135	crutchfield@fas.usda.gov
Remote Sensing Specialist	Vacant	202-690-0134	

WEB SITES OF INTEREST

Foreign Agricultural Service at <http://www.fas.usda.gov>
National Agricultural Statistics Service at <http://www.usda.gov/nass>
World Agricultural Outlook Board at <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob>
Economic Research Service at <http://www.usda.gov/ers>
Joint Agricultural Weather Facility at <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

March 1998

SUBJECT

PAGE

PRODUCTION HIGHLIGHTS FOR 1997/98

Wheat	6
Coarse Grains	7
Rice	8
Oilseeds	8
Cotton	9

TABLES

Table 1.	U.S. Crop Acreage, Yield, and Production	11
Table 2.	World Crop Production Summary	12
Table 3.	Wheat Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	13
Table 4.	Total Coarse Grain Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	14
Table 5.	Corn Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	15
Table 6.	Barley Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	16
Table 7.	Oats Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	17
Table 8.	Rye Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	18
Table 9.	Sorghum Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	19
Table 10.	Rice Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	20
Table 11.	Total Oilseed Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	21
Table 12.	Soybean Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	22
Table 13.	Cottonseed Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	23
Table 14.	Peanut Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	24
Table 15.	Sunflowerseed Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	25
Table 16.	Rapeseed Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	26
Table 17.	Copra, Palm Kernel, and Palm Oil Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	27
Table 18.	Cotton Area, Yield, and Production: World and Selected Countries and Regions	28
Table 19.	Reliability of March Production Projections	29

MAPS

Map 1. World Agricultural Weather Highlights	30
Map 2. March Normal Crop Calendar	31
Map 3. April Normal Crop Calendar	32
Map 4. Former Soviet Union: Weather and Crop Highlights	38
Map 5. China: Weather and Crop Highlights	39

WEATHER BRIEFS

South Africa: Rain Followed by Warm Sunny Weather Favors Corn Crop	33
Argentina: Frequent Rains Maintain Adequate-to-Surplus Soil Moisture	33
Brazil: Heavy Showers Maintain High Soil Moisture in Southern Brazil	34

PRODUCTION BRIEFS

India: Cotton Production Estimate Lowered Due to Rain Damage	34
China: Higher Estimates For Corn and Peanuts	34
Indonesia: Corn and Rice Output Revised Lower	35
European Union: Wheat Crop Revised Lower; Coarse Grain Higher	35
Australia: Coarse Grain Production Down	36
India: Rice Production Forecast At a Record	36
Mexico: Sorghum Estimates Reduced Due To Moisture Concerns	36
United States: Crop Condition and Progress	36
Former Soviet Union: Weather and Crop Developments	37

FEATURE COMMODITY ARTICLES

Russia and Ukraine 1998/99 Winter Grains	40
Paraguayan Cotton Situation	43
Northwest Africa Winter Grain Situation	45

FEATURE TABLES

Table 20. Paraguayan Cotton: Area, Yield, and Production	44
Table 21. Northwest Africa Winter Grains: Area, Yield, and Production	48

FEATURE CHARTS

Chart 1. Russia: Estimated Area of Winter Grains	41
Chart 2. Russia: Sown Winter-Grain Area by Region	41
Chart 3. Russia: Winter-Grain and Spring-Barley Area	42
Chart 4. Ukraine: Winter-Wheat and Spring-Barley Area	42
Chart 5. Paraguayan Cotton Area	44
Chart 6. Paraguayan Cotton Yields	44
Chart 7. Paraguayan Cotton Production	44
Chart 8. Northwest Africa Winter Grains Area	47
Chart 9. Northwest Africa Winter Grain Production	47
Chart 10. Northwest Africa Winter Grain Yield	48

PRODUCTION HIGHLIGHTS FOR 1997/98

March 1998

WHEAT

<u>Country</u>	<u>Current Estimate</u> MMT	<u>1997/98 Monthly Change</u> MMT	<u>Monthly Change</u> (%)	<u>Change From 1996/97</u> (%)	<u>Comments</u>
World	609.2	-0.2	-0	+5	Production is projected at a record despite a decrease in the total foreign category.
United States	68.8	NC	NC	+11	Production is unchanged from last month.
Total Foreign	540.4	-0.2	-0	+4	Production is estimated at a record, despite decreases in the European Union, Pakistan, and Syria which more than offset increases in Argentina, Saudi Arabia, India, and Bangladesh.
European Union	94.5	-0.7	-1	-4	Production is estimated lower based on reduced yields for Italy, Ireland, and Netherlands.
Pakistan	16.7	-0.4	-2	-2	Production is estimated lower based on official data that reduced yield. Harvest was completed during the spring of 1997.
Syria	3.0	-0.2	-5	-26	Production is estimated lower based on official statistics reducing yield.
Argentina	14.3	+0.4	+3	-10	Production is estimated higher based on harvest reports indicating record yield. Harvest is virtually complete.
Saudi Arabia	1.8	+0.3	+20	+50	Production is revised higher based on official data indicating record yield. Harvest was completed during the spring of 1997.
India	69.0	+0.3	+0	+10	Production is revised higher as both area and yield are at record levels. The crop was harvested last spring.
Bangladesh	1.5	+0.2	+11	+3	Production is estimated at a record level. Area is revised to a record, while yield is near-record.

COARSE GRAINS

<u>Country</u>	----- 1997/98 -----		<u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> (%)	<u>Change</u> <u>From</u> <u>1996/97</u> (%)	<u>Comments</u>
	<u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> MMT	<u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> MMT			
World	896.4	+3.6	+0	-1	Production is projected higher due to an increase in the total foreign category.
United States	265.4	NC	NC	-1	Production is unchanged from last month.
Total Foreign	631.0	+3.6	+1	-1	Production is projected higher as increases in China, the European Union, Australia, and Paraguay more than offset decreases in Indonesia, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, and India.
China	122.4	+4.3	+4	-13	Production is estimated higher as provincial harvest results indicate an increase in corn output. Sorghum yield and the area and yield for oats are reduced.
European Union	109.2	+0.5	+0	+5	Production is estimated at a record level. Harvest results indicate increased corn yields for France and Italy.
Australia	8.9	+0.4	+4	-12	Production is estimated higher based on an ABARE report increasing barley yield. Sorghum output is slightly lower as area is reduced.
Paraguay	1.0	+0.3	+42	-5	Production is estimated higher as favorable weather boosted corn area and yield.
Indonesia	5.7	-0.8	-12	-4	Production is estimated lower based in part on a downward revision of the 1996/97 corn area and production. Below-normal rainfall reduced this year's corn yield potential.
Mexico	24.8	-0.4	-2	-6	Production is estimated lower for sorghum based on decreases in area and yield. The first crop had lower-than-expected yield, while second-crop planted area is revised lower.
Saudi Arabia	0.6	-0.4	-40	-8	Production is estimated lower due to reduced barley area.
India	31.0	-0.2	-1	-9	Production is estimated lower due to decreases in corn area and yield.

WORLD RICE (MILLED BASIS)

<u>Country</u>	<u>Current Estimate</u> MMT	<u>1997/98 Monthly Change</u> MMT	<u>Monthly Change</u> (%)	<u>Change From 1996/97</u> (%)	<u>Comments</u>
World	382.2	+0.4	+0	+1	Production is projected at a record due to an increase in the total foreign category.
United States	5.8	NC	NC	+7	Production is unchanged from last month.
Total Foreign	376.4	+0.4	+0	+0	Production is projected at a record level as output increases in India and Japan more than offset decreases in Indonesia, Argentina, and Uruguay.
India	82.0	+0.5	+1	+1	Production is estimated at a record based on an increase in yield. The weather was favorable throughout the growing season.
Japan	9.1	+0.1	+1	-3	Production is estimated higher based on official data increasing yield.
Indonesia	30.9	-0.1	-0	-4	Production is projected lower due to reduced area caused by early-season dryness which also delayed planting. The ensuing late harvest will negatively affect the amount of area for the second-season rice crop.

OILSEEDS

<u>Country</u>	<u>Current Forecast</u> MMT	<u>1997/98 Monthly Change</u> MMT	<u>Monthly Change</u> (%)	<u>Change From 1996/97</u> (%)	<u>Comments</u>
World	283.6	+0.0	+0	+9	Production is estimated higher based on increases in the total foreign category. Oilseeds production is a record.
United States	84.6	NC	NC	+13	Production is unchanged from last month.
Total Foreign	199.0	+0.0	+0	+7	Production is estimated virtually unchanged as an increase in China is offset by decreases in Argentina, Senegal, and India.
China	40.9	+0.8	+2	-1	Production is estimated higher because of higher-than-expected official preliminary estimates for cottonseed and peanuts. Minor revisions for other crops were offsetting.
India	26.1	-0.4	-2	-2	Production is estimated lower because of heavy rains during flowering of rapeseed and lower-than-expected arrivals of seed cotton for ginning.

OILSEEDS, continued

<u>Country</u>	<u>Current Forecast MMT</u>	<u>1997/98 Monthly Change MMT</u>	<u>Monthly Change (%)</u>	<u>Change From 1996/97 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Argentina	22.9	-0.3	-1	+33	Production is forecast lower because of damage to a maturing sunflower crop caused by heavy rains. Despite the reduced sunflower output, record oilseed production is forecast based on expectations of a record soybean crop.
Senegal	0.6	-0.2	-22	-14	Production of peanuts is estimated lower due to erratic rainfall during the growing season and reduced availability of inputs.

PALM OIL

<u>Country</u>	<u>Current Forecast MMT</u>	<u>1997/98 Monthly Change MMT</u>	<u>Monthly Change (%)</u>	<u>Change From 1996/97 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
World	17.6	+0.1	+1	+1	Production is forecast higher based on an increase in Indonesia.
Indonesia	5.5	+0.1	+2	+4	Production is estimated up based on new information showing higher output over the past three years.

COTTON

<u>Country</u>	<u>Current Estimate MBALES</u>	<u>1997/98 Monthly Change MBALES</u>	<u>Monthly Change (%)</u>	<u>Change From 1996/97 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
World Total	90.1	-0.9	-1	+1	Production is forecast lower due to a decrease in the total foreign category.
United States	19.0	NC	NC	+0	Production is unchanged from last month. The crop is the second largest on record.
Total Foreign	71.1	-0.9	-1	+1	Production is forecast down due mainly to lower output in India which more-than-offset higher output in China.

COTTON, continued

<u>Country</u>	----- 1997/98 -----		----- Monthly Change (%)	Change From 1996/97 (%)	<u>Comments</u>
	<u>Current</u> Estimate MBALES	<u>Monthly</u> Change MBALES			
China	19.7	+0.2	+1	+2	Production is estimated up due to a record national yield. Record yields occurred in Xinjiang and in the cotton producing provinces of the Yangtze River Basin more-than-offsetting lower yields on the North China Plain.
India	11.7	-1.1	-9	-15	Production is estimated down due to inclement weather during the harvest period in Maharashtra and some parts of Andhra Pradesh. Late winter rains caused shedding of flowers and bolls, diminishing the third and forth pickings.

TABLE 1
U.S. Crop Acreage, Yield, and Production

COMMODITY	Planted Area			Harvested Area			Yield			Production		
	1995/96	1996/97	Proj. 1997/98	1995/96	1996/97	Proj. 1997/98	1995/96	1996/97	Prel. 1997/98 Proj. Feb. Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Prel. 1997/98 Proj. Feb. Mar.
All Wheat Winter Other	--Million acres--			--Million acres--			--Bushels per acre--			--Million bushels--		
	69.1	75.6	71.0	60.9	62.9	63.6	35.8	36.3	39.7	2,183	2,285	2,527
	48.7	52.0	48.3	41.0	39.7	41.8	37.7	37.2	45.0	1,545	1,477	1,883
	20.4	23.6	22.7	19.9	23.2	21.8	32.1	34.8	29.6	638	808	644
Soybeans	62.6	64.2	70.9	61.6	63.4	69.9	35.3	37.6	39.0	2,177	2,382	2,727
Corn	71.2	79.5	80.2	65.0	73.1	73.7	113.5	127.1	127.0	7,374	9,293	9,366
Sorghum	9.5	13.2	10.1	8.3	11.9	9.4	55.6	67.5	69.5	460	803	653
Barley	6.7	7.1	6.9	6.3	6.8	6.4	57.3	58.5	58.3	360	396	374
Oats	6.3	4.7	5.2	3.0	2.7	2.9	54.7	57.8	60.5	162	155	176
Rice							--Pounds per acre--			--Million CWT--		
	3.1	2.8	3.1	3.1	2.8	3.0	5,621	6,121	5,896	173.9	171.3	178.9
All Cotton	16.9	14.6	13.8	16.0	12.9	13.3	536	707	686	--Million 480-pound bales--		
										17.9	18.9	19.0

March 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 2
World Crop Production Summary

Commodity	World	Total Foreign	North America		Europe		FSU-12	Asia				South America		Selected Other			All Others				
			United States	Canada	Mexico	Europe Union		Oth. Europe	W. Europe	Eastern Europe	China	India	Indonesia	Pakistan	Thailand	Argentina		Brazil	Australia	South Africa	Turkey
---Million metric tons---																					
Wheat	1995/96	537.5	478.1	59.4	25.0	3.4	86.2	1.3	35.0	59.3	102.2	65.5	0.0	17.0	0.0	8.6	1.5	16.5	2.0	15.5	39.2
	1996/97 prel.	582.6	520.4	62.2	29.8	3.5	98.5	2.2	26.4	63.0	110.6	62.6	0.0	16.9	0.0	15.9	3.2	23.7	2.7	16.0	45.5
	1997/98 proj.																				
	Feb.	609.4	540.6	68.8	24.3	3.8	95.2	0.7	34.8	79.6	124.0	68.7	0.0	17.0	0.0	13.9	2.8	19.0	2.3	16.0	38.6
Mar.	609.2	540.4	68.8	24.3	3.8	94.5	0.7	34.8	79.6	124.0	69.0	0.0	16.7	0.0	14.3	2.8	19.0	2.3	16.0	38.8	
Coarse Grains	1995/96	801.8	592.4	209.4	24.1	23.8	88.5	2.7	51.4	57.4	124.5	29.7	6.0	1.8	3.9	14.1	33.2	9.6	11.0	9.4	101.2
	1996/97 prel.	907.9	640.4	267.6	28.2	26.3	103.8	3.7	49.6	52.3	141.3	34.0	6.0	1.9	4.1	18.9	36.6	10.1	9.5	9.5	104.7
	1997/98 proj.																				
	Feb.	892.9	627.4	265.4	25.2	25.2	108.7	2.8	57.9	67.8	118.2	31.2	6.5	1.9	3.5	21.3	33.8	8.5	8.0	10.3	96.9
Mar.	896.4	631.0	265.4	25.2	24.8	109.2	2.8	57.9	67.8	122.4	31.0	5.7	1.9	3.5	3.5	21.3	33.8	8.9	8.0	10.3	96.8
Rice (Milled)	1995/96	371.2	365.6	5.6	0.0	0.2	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.8	129.7	79.6	33.2	3.9	14.4	0.6	6.8	0.7	0.0	0.2	94.1
	1996/97 prel.	380.1	374.7	5.5	0.0	0.3	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.7	136.6	81.2	32.2	4.3	13.7	0.8	6.6	1.0	0.0	0.3	95.5
	1997/98 proj.																				
	Feb.	381.8	376.0	5.8	0.0	0.3	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.8	138.5	81.5	31.0	4.3	14.3	0.8	6.5	0.9	0.0	0.3	95.2
Mar.	382.2	376.4	5.8	0.0	0.3	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.8	138.5	82.0	30.9	4.3	14.3	0.8	6.5	0.9	0.0	0.3	95.1	
Total Grains 1/	1995/96	1710.6	1436.1	274.5	49.2	27.5	175.9	4.0	86.5	117.5	356.4	174.8	39.2	22.8	18.3	23.3	41.6	26.8	12.9	25.1	234.6
	1996/97 prel.	1870.7	1535.5	335.2	58.0	30.0	203.8	5.9	76.0	116.0	388.5	177.8	38.1	23.1	17.8	35.6	46.5	34.8	12.2	25.8	245.6
	1997/98 proj.																				
	Feb.	1884.0	1544.0	340.0	49.5	29.3	205.5	3.4	92.7	148.1	380.7	181.4	37.5	23.2	17.8	36.0	43.1	28.4	10.3	26.6	230.7
Mar.	1887.8	1547.8	340.0	49.5	28.9	205.3	3.4	92.7	148.1	384.9	182.0	36.6	22.8	17.8	36.3	43.1	28.8	10.3	26.6	230.6	
Oilseeds 2/	1995/96	259.7	190.6	69.1	8.8	0.7	13.1	0.1	5.3	11.3	43.3	24.9	2.6	4.0	0.5	19.2	25.0	1.4	1.1	2.2	27.0
	1996/97 prel.	261.4	186.5	74.8	7.3	0.6	12.8	0.1	4.6	8.6	41.4	26.6	2.4	3.7	0.5	17.3	27.5	1.8	0.8	1.8	28.8
	1997/98 proj.																				
	Feb.	283.6	199.0	84.6	9.0	0.7	14.5	0.1	4.4	9.1	40.1	26.5	2.4	3.6	0.5	23.2	30.8	2.0	0.7	1.9	29.6
Mar.	283.6	199.0	84.6	9.0	0.6	14.5	0.1	4.4	9.1	40.9	26.1	2.4	3.6	0.5	22.9	30.8	2.0	0.8	1.9	29.4	
Cotton	1995/96	93.0	75.1	17.9	0.0	1.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	8.3	21.9	13.3	0.0	8.2	0.0	1.9	1.8	2.0	0.2	3.9	10.4
	1996/97 prel.	89.2	70.3	18.9	0.0	1.1	1.8	0.0	0.0	6.5	19.3	13.8	0.0	7.3	0.0	1.5	1.3	2.8	0.2	3.6	11.1
	1997/98 proj.																				
	Feb.	91.0	72.0	19.0	0.0	0.9	2.2	0.0	0.0	7.3	19.5	12.8	0.0	7.0	0.0	2.1	1.9	3.0	0.2	3.3	11.8
Mar.	90.1	71.1	19.0	0.0	0.9	2.2	0.0	0.0	7.3	19.7	11.7	0.0	7.0	0.0	2.1	1.9	3.0	0.2	3.3	11.7	

1/ Includes wheat, coarse grains, and rice (milled) shown above.

2/ Includes soybean, cottonseed, peanut (inshell), sunflowerseed, rapeseed for individual countries. Copra and palm kernel are added to world totals.

Note: Entries of 0.0 indicate no reported or insignificant production.

March 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 3
Wheat Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
		Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
World	219.52	230.70	229.15	229.53	2.45	2.53	2.66	2.65	537.53	582.60	609.35	609.18	-0.17	-0.03	26.58	4.56
United States	24.66	25.47	25.73	25.73	2.41	2.44	2.67	2.67	59.40	62.19	68.76	68.76	0.00	0.00	6.57	10.56
Total Foreign	194.86	205.24	203.42	203.80	2.45	2.54	2.66	2.65	478.13	520.41	540.59	540.42	-0.17	-0.03	20.01	3.85
Major Exporters																
European Union	41.52	47.44	44.99	45.04	3.28	3.54	3.39	3.38	136.30	167.91	152.39	152.08	-0.32	-0.21	-15.83	-9.43
France	16.16	16.74	17.09	17.14	5.33	5.89	5.57	5.51	86.16	98.50	95.19	94.48	-0.72	-0.75	-4.03	-4.09
United Kingdom	4.75	5.02	5.10	5.11	6.50	7.15	6.67	6.66	30.86	35.94	34.00	34.00	0.00	0.00	-1.94	-5.40
Germany	1.86	1.98	2.03	2.03	7.70	8.15	7.39	7.39	14.31	16.10	15.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	-1.10	-6.83
Canada	2.58	2.59	2.70	2.73	6.89	7.29	7.37	7.28	17.76	18.92	19.90	19.87	-0.03	-0.17	0.94	4.99
Australia	11.14	12.26	11.40	11.40	2.25	2.43	2.13	2.13	25.04	29.80	24.30	24.30	0.00	0.00	-5.50	-18.46
Argentina	9.72	11.34	10.80	10.80	1.70	2.09	1.76	1.76	16.50	23.70	19.00	19.00	0.00	0.00	-4.70	-19.84
	4.50	7.10	5.70	5.70	1.91	2.24	2.44	2.51	8.60	15.90	13.90	14.30	0.40	2.88	-1.60	-10.06
Major Importers																
China	88.12	92.36	93.17	93.13	2.34	2.34	2.69	2.69	205.82	216.14	250.53	250.56	0.03	0.01	34.42	15.92
FSU-12	28.86	29.61	30.00	30.00	3.54	3.73	4.13	4.13	102.22	110.57	124.00	124.00	0.00	0.00	13.43	12.15
Russia	45.36	47.43	47.56	47.56	1.31	1.33	1.67	1.67	59.32	62.97	79.59	79.59	0.00	0.00	16.62	26.39
Ukraine	23.91	25.72	25.70	25.70	1.26	1.36	1.72	1.72	30.10	34.90	44.20	44.20	0.00	0.00	9.30	26.65
Kazakstan	5.48	5.89	6.50	6.50	2.97	2.30	2.83	2.83	16.27	13.55	18.40	18.40	0.00	0.00	4.85	35.79
Baltic States	12.55	12.20	11.50	11.50	0.52	0.63	0.75	0.75	6.49	7.70	8.65	8.65	0.00	0.00	0.95	12.34
Eastern Europe	0.41	0.52	0.55	0.55	2.36	2.61	2.62	2.62	0.96	1.37	1.44	1.44	0.00	0.00	0.07	5.49
Poland	9.71	8.76	9.97	9.97	3.60	3.02	3.49	3.49	34.98	26.40	34.75	34.75	0.00	0.00	8.35	31.63
Romania	2.41	2.48	2.55	2.55	3.60	3.46	3.24	3.24	8.67	8.58	8.25	8.25	0.00	0.00	-0.33	-3.83
Egypt	2.42	1.80	2.35	2.35	3.18	1.76	2.98	2.98	7.70	3.17	7.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	3.84	121.17
Morocco	1.06	1.02	1.04	1.04	5.40	5.64	5.60	5.60	5.70	5.74	5.85	5.85	0.00	0.00	0.11	2.01
Brazil	1.70	3.22	2.50	2.50	0.65	1.83	0.84	0.84	1.10	5.90	2.10	2.10	0.00	0.00	-3.80	-64.41
	1.03	1.81	1.55	1.51	1.49	1.77	1.81	1.87	1.54	3.20	2.80	2.83	0.03	1.07	-0.37	-11.48
Other Foreign																
India	65.22	65.44	65.26	65.63	2.09	2.08	2.11	2.10	136.01	136.36	137.67	137.78	0.11	0.08	1.42	1.04
Turkey	25.60	25.12	25.90	26.00	2.56	2.49	2.65	2.65	65.47	62.62	68.70	69.00	0.30	0.44	6.38	10.19
Pakistan	8.55	8.45	8.50	8.50	1.81	1.89	1.88	1.88	15.50	16.00	16.00	16.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mexico	8.17	8.38	8.10	8.11	2.08	2.02	2.10	2.05	17.00	16.91	17.00	16.65	-0.35	-2.06	-0.26	-1.52
Saudi Arabia	0.93	0.81	0.92	0.92	3.73	4.17	4.13	4.13	3.47	3.38	3.80	3.80	0.00	0.00	0.43	12.59
South Africa	0.47	0.27	0.33	0.34	4.30	4.53	4.55	5.36	2.00	1.20	1.50	1.80	0.30	20.00	0.60	50.00
Others	1.36	1.29	1.38	1.38	1.43	2.09	1.67	1.65	1.95	2.70	2.30	2.28	-0.02	-0.74	-0.42	-15.44
	20.14	21.12	20.13	20.38	1.52	1.59	1.41	1.39	30.62	33.56	28.37	28.25	-0.12	-0.42	-5.31	-15.82

TABLE 4
Total Coarse Grain Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area					Yield					Production					Change in Production			
	Prel.			1997/98 Proj.		Prel.			1997/98 Proj.		Prel.			1997/98 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1995/96	1996/97		Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97		Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97		Feb.	Mar.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
						Metric tons per hectare					Million metric tons								
World	313.36	322.17	316.99	316.50		2.56	2.82	2.82	2.83		801.85	907.94	892.86	896.45		3.59	0.40	-11.50	-1.27
United States	33.55	38.38	37.55	37.55		6.24	6.97	7.07	7.07		209.44	267.56	265.42	265.42		0.00	0.00	-2.14	-0.80
Total Foreign	279.81	283.78	279.44	278.95		2.12	2.26	2.25	2.26		592.41	640.38	627.44	631.02		3.59	0.57	-9.36	-1.46
Major Exporters																			
Canada	21.57	23.57	22.33	22.24		2.91	3.01	2.98	3.01		62.72	70.90	66.50	66.88		0.38	0.57	-4.02	-5.66
Argentina	6.97	8.00	7.63	7.63		3.46	3.52	3.31	3.31		24.12	28.19	25.22	25.22		0.00	0.00	-2.98	-10.57
Australia	3.95	4.66	4.74	4.74		3.57	4.06	4.49	4.49		14.09	18.93	21.25	21.25		0.00	0.00	2.32	12.25
South Africa	5.03	5.20	4.89	4.79		1.91	1.95	1.74	1.85		9.63	10.15	8.51	8.89		0.38	4.47	-1.26	-12.42
Thailand	4.32	4.34	3.89	3.89		2.54	2.19	2.06	2.06		10.99	9.53	8.03	8.03		0.00	0.00	-1.50	-15.70
	1.30	1.36	1.19	1.19		3.00	3.01	2.94	2.94		3.90	4.10	3.50	3.50		0.00	0.00	-0.60	-14.63
Major Importers																			
FSU-12	89.91	86.18	88.26	88.16		2.50	2.74	2.99	2.99		224.78	236.33	263.69	263.77		0.08	0.03	27.44	11.61
Russia	43.80	38.49	39.23	39.23		1.31	1.36	1.73	1.73		57.36	52.34	67.76	67.76		0.00	0.00	15.42	29.45
Ukraine	27.21	24.85	24.80	24.80		1.13	1.27	1.65	1.65		30.70	31.65	40.85	40.85		0.00	0.00	9.20	29.08
Kazakhstan	6.90	5.34	6.80	6.80		2.26	1.78	2.26	2.26		15.61	9.51	15.35	15.35		0.00	0.00	5.84	61.41
Baltic States	5.81	4.55	3.96	3.96		0.47	0.71	0.80	0.80		2.76	3.23	3.16	3.16		0.00	0.00	-0.07	-2.17
European Union	1.28	1.20	1.16	1.16		1.61	2.20	2.19	2.19		2.05	2.63	2.54	2.54		0.00	0.00	-0.09	-3.53
Germany	18.48	19.64	20.58	20.57		4.79	5.28	5.28	5.31		88.49	103.76	108.67	109.15		0.48	0.44	5.39	5.20
France	3.95	4.11	4.36	4.30		5.60	5.64	5.87	5.94		22.10	23.21	25.55	25.51		-0.04	-0.17	2.29	9.88
Eastern Europe	3.42	3.67	3.97	3.98		6.43	7.07	7.27	7.32		21.96	25.96	28.82	29.12		0.31	1.07	3.17	12.19
Poland	16.15	16.18	16.33	16.33		3.19	3.06	3.55	3.55		51.44	49.56	57.89	57.89		0.00	0.00	8.33	16.82
Romania	6.17	6.24	6.34	6.34		2.79	2.68	2.71	2.71		17.24	16.72	17.18	17.18		0.00	0.00	0.46	2.76
Czech Rep.	3.96	4.04	3.90	3.90		3.05	2.74	3.82	3.82		12.08	11.07	14.89	14.89		0.00	0.00	3.82	34.52
Mexico	0.72	0.76	0.83	0.83		3.74	3.73	3.91	3.91		2.70	2.85	3.25	3.25		0.00	0.00	0.40	14.18
Other W. Europe	9.83	10.30	10.60	10.50		2.43	2.55	2.37	2.36		23.85	26.25	25.15	24.75		-0.40	-1.59	-1.50	-5.71
	0.38	0.38	0.37	0.37		4.23	4.74	4.56	4.56		1.59	1.79	1.69	1.69		0.00	0.00	-0.11	-5.92
Other Foreign																			
China	168.34	174.04	168.86	168.56		1.81	1.91	1.76	1.78		304.91	333.16	297.24	300.37		3.13	1.05	-32.79	-9.84
India	27.33	29.10	27.98	27.88		4.56	4.86	4.22	4.39		124.50	141.32	118.15	122.40		4.25	3.60	-18.92	-13.39
Brazil	31.48	32.18	31.68	31.73		0.94	1.06	0.98	0.98		29.69	33.95	31.20	31.00		-0.20	-0.64	-2.95	-8.69
Turkey	14.33	14.21	13.19	13.19		2.32	2.58	2.56	2.56		33.24	36.63	33.81	33.81		0.00	0.00	-2.83	-7.71
Indonesia	4.50	4.68	4.78	4.78		2.08	2.12	2.16	2.16		9.36	9.93	10.33	10.33		0.00	0.00	0.40	4.03
Philippines	3.53	3.20	3.50	3.20		1.70	1.86	1.86	1.78		6.00	5.95	6.50	5.70		-0.80	-12.31	-0.25	-4.20
Others	2.76	2.72	2.70	2.70		1.57	1.55	1.56	1.56		4.32	4.22	4.20	4.20		0.00	0.00	-0.02	-0.36
	84.40	87.95	85.03	85.09		1.16	1.15	1.09	1.09		97.80	101.16	93.06	92.94		-0.12	-0.13	-8.23	-8.13

TABLE 5
Corn Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production		
	Prel.			Prel.			Prel.			From last month		
	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98 Proj.	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98 Proj.	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98 Proj.	From last month	From last year	From last year
							Metric tons per hectare			MMT		
							Million hectares			Percent		
World	134.20	140.79	140.10	3.84	4.20	4.13	515.49	591.26	578.53	4.93	0.85	-7.80
United States	26.30	29.60	29.83	7.12	7.97	7.97	187.31	236.06	237.90	0.00	0.00	1.83
Total Foreign	107.89	111.19	110.06	3.04	3.19	3.09	328.19	355.19	340.63	4.93	1.45	-9.63
Major Exporters	7.14	7.96	7.23	3.50	3.57	3.78	25.00	28.41	27.30	0.00	0.00	-1.11
Argentina	2.70	3.40	3.30	4.11	4.56	5.00	11.10	15.50	16.50	0.00	0.00	1.00
South Africa	3.30	3.36	2.90	3.09	2.68	2.59	10.20	9.01	7.50	0.00	0.00	-1.51
Thailand	1.14	1.20	1.03	3.25	3.25	3.20	3.70	3.90	3.30	0.00	0.00	-0.60
Major Importers	20.95	21.53	22.98	3.79	3.95	4.28	79.36	85.01	98.31	0.52	0.53	13.83
Eastern Europe	6.85	7.04	6.85	3.62	3.62	4.54	24.77	25.46	31.13	0.00	0.00	5.67
Romania	3.12	3.29	3.05	3.18	2.92	4.10	9.92	9.61	12.50	0.00	0.00	2.89
Yugoslavia	2.00	2.10	2.10	3.85	3.62	4.52	7.70	7.60	9.50	0.00	0.00	1.90
European Union	3.73	4.10	4.35	7.83	8.50	8.71	29.22	34.79	37.89	0.52	1.39	3.62
France	1.62	1.72	1.85	7.64	8.41	8.92	12.39	14.43	16.50	0.30	1.82	2.37
Italy	0.94	1.02	1.05	8.97	9.33	9.05	8.45	9.55	9.50	0.28	2.93	0.23
Mexico	7.80	8.20	8.50	2.28	2.38	2.18	17.78	19.50	18.50	0.00	0.00	-1.00
FSU-12	2.47	2.11	3.18	2.84	2.26	3.24	7.01	4.76	10.31	0.00	0.00	5.54
Russia	0.64	0.70	0.80	2.64	1.57	3.38	1.70	1.10	2.70	0.00	0.00	1.60
Ukraine	1.16	0.67	1.65	2.92	2.74	3.21	3.39	1.84	5.30	0.00	0.00	3.46
Other W. Europe	0.03	0.02	0.03	8.65	8.96	8.80	0.23	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	0.08	0.07	0.07	4.60	3.96	3.96	0.35	0.27	0.27	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Foreign	79.81	81.70	80.06	2.80	2.96	2.69	223.83	241.78	215.02	4.41	2.05	-22.35
China	22.77	24.50	23.50	4.92	5.20	4.47	112.00	127.47	105.00	5.00	4.76	-17.47
Brazil	13.77	13.60	12.60	2.36	2.63	2.62	32.48	35.80	33.00	0.00	0.00	-2.80
India	6.01	6.10	6.15	1.57	1.61	1.64	9.44	9.80	9.80	-0.20	-2.00	0.00
Canada	1.00	1.06	1.05	7.25	6.98	6.84	7.27	7.38	7.18	0.00	0.00	-0.20
Indonesia	3.53	3.20	3.20	1.70	1.86	1.86	6.00	5.95	6.50	-0.80	-12.31	-0.25
Philippines	2.76	2.72	2.70	1.57	1.55	1.56	4.32	4.22	4.20	0.00	0.00	-0.02
Egypt	0.90	0.88	0.93	5.93	6.65	6.16	5.35	5.83	5.70	0.00	0.00	-0.13
Zimbabwe	1.55	1.64	1.40	1.68	1.10	1.21	2.60	1.80	1.70	0.00	0.00	-0.10
Others	27.52	28.01	28.36	1.61	1.55	1.48	44.36	43.54	41.74	0.41	0.98	-1.39

March 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 6
Barley Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
World	68.70	66.47	66.17	66.18	2.08	2.32	2.35	2.35	142.75	154.08	155.49	155.39	-0.10	-0.07	1.31	0.85
United States	2.54	2.74	2.60	2.60	3.08	3.15	3.14	3.14	7.83	8.62	8.15	8.15	0.00	0.00	-0.46	-5.37
Total Foreign	66.16	63.73	63.57	63.58	2.04	2.28	2.32	2.32	134.92	145.47	147.34	147.24	-0.10	-0.07	1.77	1.22
European Union	10.77	11.38	11.88	11.91	4.06	4.55	4.43	4.42	43.71	51.72	52.63	52.68	0.05	0.09	0.96	1.86
Denmark	0.72	0.74	0.75	0.75	5.40	5.36	5.33	5.33	3.86	3.95	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	1.19
France	1.39	1.53	1.66	1.68	5.56	6.25	6.14	6.06	7.74	9.54	10.20	10.19	-0.01	-0.12	0.65	6.79
Germany	2.11	2.21	2.30	2.28	5.64	5.47	5.83	5.90	11.89	12.07	13.40	13.43	0.03	0.20	1.35	11.21
Italy	0.38	0.36	0.30	0.35	3.64	3.76	3.67	3.27	1.39	1.35	1.10	1.14	0.03	3.18	-0.22	-15.93
Spain	3.30	3.53	3.71	3.71	1.58	2.72	2.32	2.32	5.20	9.60	8.60	8.60	0.00	0.00	-1.00	-10.42
United Kingdom	1.19	1.27	1.33	1.33	5.73	6.14	5.86	5.86	6.83	7.78	7.80	7.80	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.26
FSU-12	25.87	20.62	21.08	21.08	1.21	1.35	1.63	1.63	31.40	27.93	34.35	34.35	0.00	0.00	6.42	22.98
Russia	14.71	11.85	12.50	12.50	1.07	1.34	1.66	1.66	15.80	15.90	20.80	20.80	0.00	0.00	4.90	30.82
Ukraine	4.41	3.43	3.70	3.70	2.18	1.67	2.00	2.00	9.63	5.73	7.40	7.40	0.00	0.00	1.68	29.26
Kazakstan	4.79	3.60	3.20	3.20	0.45	0.75	0.81	0.81	2.18	2.70	2.60	2.60	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-3.70
Baltic States	0.94	0.81	0.73	0.73	1.56	2.29	2.29	2.29	1.46	1.86	1.67	1.67	0.00	0.00	-0.19	-10.31
Eastern Europe	3.41	3.31	3.66	3.66	3.30	2.92	3.31	3.31	11.25	9.69	12.11	12.11	0.00	0.00	2.43	25.05
Poland	1.05	1.13	1.24	1.24	3.13	3.04	3.11	3.11	3.28	3.44	3.87	3.87	0.00	0.00	0.44	12.71
Czech Rep.	0.56	0.60	0.65	0.65	3.84	3.77	3.93	3.93	2.14	2.26	2.54	2.54	0.00	0.00	0.27	12.07
Romania	0.57	0.50	0.62	0.62	2.98	2.22	3.23	3.23	1.70	1.11	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.89	80.18
Canada	4.37	4.89	4.70	4.70	2.99	3.18	2.90	2.90	13.04	15.56	13.65	13.65	0.00	0.00	-1.91	-12.29
Other W. Europe	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	3.82	4.49	4.27	4.27	0.88	1.03	0.96	0.96	0.00	0.00	-0.07	-6.98
Norway	0.18	0.18	0.17	0.17	3.29	3.83	3.88	3.88	0.58	0.67	0.66	0.66	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-1.49
Turkey	3.55	3.65	3.65	3.65	1.94	1.97	1.97	1.97	6.90	7.20	7.20	7.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Australia	3.11	3.41	3.25	3.25	1.87	2.00	1.74	1.85	5.82	6.81	5.65	6.00	0.35	6.19	-0.81	-11.88
China	1.28	1.30	1.30	1.30	3.19	3.08	3.08	3.08	4.09	4.00	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Morocco	1.30	2.43	2.00	2.00	0.46	1.56	0.65	0.65	0.60	3.80	1.30	1.30	0.00	0.00	-2.50	-65.79
India	0.89	0.88	0.88	0.88	1.94	1.88	1.93	1.93	1.73	1.65	1.70	1.70	0.00	0.00	0.05	3.03
Others	10.43	10.82	10.22	10.19	1.34	1.31	1.19	1.14	14.03	14.22	12.12	11.62	-0.50	-4.12	-2.60	-18.26

March 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 7
Oats Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
World	18.45	17.69	17.08	17.00	1.56	1.73	1.83	1.82	28.83	30.60	31.17	31.01	-0.16	-0.52	0.41	1.36
United States	1.20	1.09	1.18	1.18	1.96	2.07	2.17	2.17	2.35	2.25	2.56	2.56	0.00	0.00	0.30	13.40
Total Foreign	17.25	16.60	15.90	15.82	1.54	1.71	1.80	1.80	26.48	28.34	28.62	28.45	-0.16	-0.57	0.11	0.40
FSU-12	9.34	8.17	7.75	7.75	1.14	1.23	1.48	1.48	10.69	10.03	11.48	11.48	0.00	0.00	1.45	14.45
Russia	7.93	6.93	6.50	6.50	1.08	1.20	1.45	1.45	8.60	8.30	9.40	9.40	0.00	0.00	1.10	13.25
Ukraine	0.56	0.48	0.55	0.55	1.99	1.51	1.82	1.82	1.12	0.73	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.27	36.99
Belarus	0.33	0.30	0.30	0.30	2.12	2.33	2.33	2.33	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Baltic States	0.13	0.15	0.15	0.15	1.64	2.06	2.07	2.07	0.22	0.32	0.31	0.31	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-2.52
Maj. Foreign Exporters	2.61	3.02	2.65	2.65	1.94	2.11	1.96	1.99	5.08	6.37	5.19	5.29	0.10	1.93	-1.08	-17.02
Canada	1.20	1.68	1.50	1.50	2.38	2.59	2.32	2.32	2.86	4.36	3.49	3.49	0.00	0.00	-0.88	-20.09
Australia	1.14	1.09	0.85	0.85	1.65	1.56	1.41	1.53	1.88	1.70	1.20	1.30	0.10	8.33	-0.40	-23.44
Argentina	0.28	0.25	0.30	0.30	1.27	1.24	1.67	1.67	0.35	0.31	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.19	61.29
Other Foreign	5.49	5.62	5.72	5.64	2.11	2.29	2.25	2.24	11.59	12.88	12.88	12.62	-0.26	-2.04	-0.26	-2.04
China	0.54	0.50	0.55	0.45	1.19	1.20	1.18	0.89	0.64	0.60	0.65	0.40	-0.25	-38.46	-0.20	-33.33
European Union	1.82	1.94	1.96	1.98	3.20	3.56	3.38	3.33	5.83	6.89	6.62	6.61	-0.01	-0.20	-0.28	-4.14
France	0.15	0.14	0.13	0.13	4.14	4.41	4.23	4.24	0.62	0.62	0.55	0.56	0.01	2.55	-0.06	-9.32
Germany	0.31	0.30	0.30	0.31	4.60	5.32	5.33	5.13	1.42	1.61	1.60	1.59	-0.01	-0.69	-0.02	-1.06
Italy	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.14	2.23	2.46	2.31	2.01	0.30	0.35	0.30	0.28	-0.02	-5.67	-0.07	-19.14
Finland	0.33	0.37	0.37	0.37	3.33	3.37	3.37	3.37	1.10	1.26	1.24	1.24	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-1.43
Sweden	0.27	0.28	0.32	0.32	3.47	4.32	4.05	4.05	0.95	1.20	1.28	1.28	0.00	0.00	0.07	6.25
Eastern Europe	1.14	1.16	1.18	1.18	2.23	2.19	2.42	2.42	2.53	2.54	2.85	2.85	0.00	0.00	0.31	12.12
Czech Rep.	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.08	3.12	3.24	3.33	3.33	0.19	0.21	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.04	16.82
Poland	0.60	0.63	0.66	0.66	2.51	2.53	2.75	2.75	1.50	1.58	1.80	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.22	13.85
Yugoslavia	0.12	0.13	0.13	0.13	1.67	1.85	1.85	1.85	0.20	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Norway	0.09	0.10	0.09	0.09	3.80	4.18	3.91	3.91	0.35	0.40	0.36	0.36	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-9.23
Turkey	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.14	1.83	1.72	1.79	1.79	0.28	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	1.42	1.41	1.43	1.43	0.61	0.66	0.63	0.63	0.87	0.93	0.90	0.90	-0.00	-0.00	-0.03	-3.32

March 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 8

Rye Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production								
	Prel.			Prel.			Prel.			From last month								
	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98 Proj.	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98 Proj.	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98 Proj.	From last month	From last year							
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent					
World	10.01	10.76	10.55	10.55	10.55	10.55	2.19	2.06	2.30	2.31	21.89	22.22	24.31	24.36	0.04	0.18	2.14	9.61
United States	0.16	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	1.64	1.64	1.64	1.64	0.26	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-1.31
Total Foreign	9.86	10.62	10.41	10.41	10.41	10.41	2.20	2.07	2.31	2.32	21.64	21.99	24.09	24.13	0.04	0.18	2.14	9.73
FSU-12	5.03	5.96	5.78	5.78	5.78	5.78	1.48	1.51	1.87	1.87	7.46	9.00	10.82	10.82	0.00	0.00	1.82	20.19
Russia	3.23	4.13	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	1.27	1.43	1.88	1.88	4.10	5.90	7.50	7.50	0.00	0.00	1.60	27.12
Ukraine	0.61	0.63	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	2.00	1.75	1.93	1.93	1.21	1.10	1.35	1.35	0.00	0.00	0.25	22.73
Belarus	1.00	1.05	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.00	1.81	1.90	1.90	2.00	1.90	1.90	1.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Baltic States	0.21	0.23	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	1.78	1.96	2.00	2.00	0.37	0.45	0.56	0.56	0.00	0.00	0.11	23.62
Major Exporter																		
Canada	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	1.91	1.91	1.94	1.94	0.31	0.31	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-2.91
Other Foreign	4.46	4.27	4.20	4.19	4.19	4.19	3.03	2.86	2.95	2.97	13.50	12.23	12.41	12.45	0.04	0.35	0.22	1.82
Eastern Europe	2.72	2.66	2.55	2.55	2.55	2.55	2.55	2.32	2.34	2.34	6.93	6.16	5.96	5.96	0.00	0.00	-0.20	-3.26
Hungary	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	2.13	1.43	2.00	2.00	0.17	0.10	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.04	40.00
Poland	2.45	2.42	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.56	2.34	2.31	2.31	6.29	5.65	5.32	5.32	0.00	0.00	-0.33	-5.84
Czech Rep.	0.08	0.06	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	3.32	3.19	3.49	3.49	0.26	0.20	0.27	0.27	0.00	0.00	0.06	29.90
European Union	1.41	1.32	1.34	1.34	1.34	1.34	4.34	4.30	4.48	4.53	6.13	5.68	6.02	6.06	0.04	0.71	0.38	6.69
Denmark	0.10	0.07	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	5.00	4.76	5.33	5.33	0.50	0.34	0.48	0.48	0.00	0.00	0.14	39.94
France	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	4.21	4.59	4.00	4.40	0.20	0.23	0.20	0.21	0.01	3.50	-0.02	-8.00
Germany	0.86	0.81	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	5.25	5.21	5.38	5.43	4.52	4.21	4.55	4.59	0.04	0.79	0.37	8.83
Spain	0.16	0.17	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	1.09	1.74	1.48	1.48	0.17	0.30	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	-0.07	-23.73
Austria	0.08	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	4.08	2.96	3.64	3.64	0.31	0.15	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.05	32.45
Sweden	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	4.51	5.52	5.17	5.17	0.20	0.18	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-17.58
Turkey	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	1.42	1.39	1.39	1.39	0.26	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	0.15	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	1.17	1.15	1.41	1.41	0.18	0.13	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.04	33.33

TABLE 9
Sorghum Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.				Prel.				Prel.				From last month			
	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	From last month	From last year		
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	40.88	44.42	40.91	40.72	1.35	1.57	1.55	1.53	55.25	69.54	63.22	62.22	-1.00	-1.58	-7.32	-10.52
United States	3.35	4.82	3.80	3.80	3.49	4.24	4.37	4.37	11.69	20.40	16.59	16.59	0.00	0.00	-3.81	-18.66
Total Foreign	37.53	39.60	37.11	36.92	1.16	1.24	1.26	1.24	43.56	49.15	46.63	45.63	-1.00	-2.14	-3.51	-7.15
India	11.44	11.70	11.20	11.20	0.83	0.98	0.80	0.80	9.55	11.50	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00	-2.50	-21.74
China	1.22	1.29	1.23	1.23	3.91	4.39	4.47	4.07	4.76	5.68	5.50	5.00	-0.50	-9.09	-0.68	-11.91
Mexico	1.73	1.80	1.80	1.70	3.21	3.44	3.44	3.41	5.57	6.20	6.20	5.80	-0.40	-6.45	-0.40	-6.45
Nigeria	6.40	6.45	6.50	6.50	1.02	1.02	1.08	1.08	6.50	6.60	7.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.40	6.06
Sudan	5.00	6.30	4.20	4.20	0.49	0.67	0.81	0.81	2.45	4.20	3.40	3.40	0.00	0.00	-0.80	-19.05
Argentina	0.63	0.68	0.75	0.75	3.32	3.70	4.27	4.27	2.10	2.50	3.20	3.20	0.00	0.00	0.70	28.00
Australia	0.65	0.56	0.65	0.56	2.38	2.15	2.00	2.13	1.56	1.21	1.30	1.20	-0.10	-7.69	-0.01	-0.99
Ethiopia	1.30	1.85	1.80	1.80	1.31	1.08	1.11	1.11	1.70	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Colombia	0.17	0.13	0.12	0.12	3.20	3.28	3.33	3.33	0.55	0.41	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-2.44
Venezuela	0.19	0.15	0.16	0.16	1.62	1.62	1.61	1.61	0.30	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Egypt	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.15	5.24	5.31	5.10	5.10	0.78	0.76	0.77	0.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.66
Yemen	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	1.03	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.46	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tanzania	0.69	0.67	0.63	0.63	1.22	1.32	0.80	0.80	0.84	0.88	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	-0.38	-42.86
Niger	1.50	1.50	1.40	1.40	0.20	0.27	0.30	0.30	0.31	0.40	0.43	0.43	0.00	0.00	0.03	6.25
South Africa	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.14	2.56	1.88	2.14	2.14	0.45	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Thailand	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	5.68	5.62	5.78	5.77	0.97	1.00	0.99	0.99	5.50	5.61	5.74	5.74	0.00	0.00	0.13	2.32

TABLE 10
Rice Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield (Rough)				Production (Milled)				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.				
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	148.05	149.50	147.92	149.30	3.72	3.77	3.82	3.79	371.19	380.15	381.81	382.23	0.42	0.11	2.08	0.55
United States	1.25	1.13	1.23	1.23	6.30	6.86	6.61	6.61	5.63	5.45	5.84	5.84	0.00	0.00	0.39	7.19
Total Foreign	146.80	148.37	146.69	148.07	3.70	3.74	3.80	3.77	365.56	374.70	375.96	376.38	0.42	0.11	1.69	0.45
Major Exporters	23.98	24.08	24.15	24.15	2.98	2.91	2.98	2.98	45.87	45.01	46.20	46.20	0.00	0.00	1.19	2.65
Vietnam	7.12	7.05	7.10	7.10	3.76	3.87	3.84	3.84	17.68	18.00	18.00	18.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Thailand	9.03	9.18	9.20	9.20	2.41	2.26	2.36	2.36	14.39	13.70	14.30	14.30	0.00	0.00	0.60	4.38
Burma	5.67	5.60	5.65	5.65	3.00	2.77	2.93	2.93	9.86	9.00	9.60	9.60	0.00	0.00	0.60	6.67
Pakistan	2.16	2.25	2.20	2.20	2.73	2.87	2.93	2.93	3.94	4.31	4.30	4.30	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-0.16
Major Importers	16.05	15.61	15.51	15.31	4.09	4.15	4.07	4.11	43.55	43.27	42.10	42.08	-0.02	-0.04	-1.19	-2.76
Indonesia	11.57	11.07	11.00	10.80	4.42	4.47	4.34	4.40	33.22	32.18	31.00	30.90	-0.10	-0.32	-1.27	-3.96
South Korea	1.06	1.05	1.05	1.05	6.05	6.85	7.01	7.01	4.69	5.32	5.45	5.45	0.00	0.00	0.13	2.44
European Union	0.36	0.41	0.41	0.41	5.54	5.94	6.11	6.23	1.23	1.58	1.60	1.68	0.08	5.14	0.10	6.14
Iran	0.57	0.60	0.60	0.60	4.08	4.00	4.00	4.00	1.55	1.60	1.60	1.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nigeria	1.70	1.66	1.65	1.65	2.22	1.96	1.87	1.87	2.26	1.95	1.85	1.85	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-5.13
Other Foreign	106.77	108.68	107.03	108.61	4.05	4.12	4.20	4.15	276.14	286.42	287.67	288.11	0.44	0.15	1.69	0.59
China	30.75	31.41	31.40	31.80	6.02	6.21	6.30	6.22	129.65	136.57	138.50	138.50	0.00	0.00	1.93	1.41
India	42.30	42.70	42.20	42.20	2.82	2.85	2.90	2.91	79.62	81.20	81.50	82.00	0.50	0.61	0.80	0.99
Bangladesh	9.94	10.91	10.00	11.20	2.67	2.60	2.78	2.48	17.69	18.88	18.50	18.50	0.00	0.00	-0.38	-2.02
Japan	2.12	1.98	1.96	1.95	6.34	6.54	6.31	6.42	9.78	9.41	9.00	9.12	0.12	1.37	-0.29	-3.08
Brazil	3.88	3.57	3.55	3.55	2.59	2.73	2.69	2.69	6.83	6.63	6.50	6.50	0.00	0.00	-0.13	-1.93
Philippines	3.92	3.91	3.70	3.70	2.85	2.86	2.91	2.91	7.26	7.27	7.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	-0.26	-3.65
Egypt	0.56	0.59	0.63	0.63	7.86	8.29	7.94	7.94	2.60	2.99	2.96	2.96	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-1.14
Taiwan	0.36	0.35	0.37	0.37	5.71	5.04	4.87	4.87	1.52	1.42	1.44	1.44	0.00	0.00	0.02	1.41
FSU-12	0.51	0.48	0.45	0.45	2.36	2.24	2.68	2.64	0.78	0.70	0.78	0.76	-0.01	-1.42	0.06	8.68
Russia	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16	2.70	2.36	2.07	2.07	0.30	0.25	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-15.02
Australia	0.15	0.17	0.14	0.14	6.38	8.36	8.49	8.57	0.68	0.99	0.85	0.87	0.02	2.35	-0.12	-12.30
Others	12.28	12.62	12.64	12.63	2.95	3.02	3.04	3.02	19.73	20.36	20.65	20.45	-0.20	-0.94	0.10	0.47

March 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 11

Total Oilseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World Total 1/ Total Foreign 1/ Copra Palm Kernel	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	259.71	261.35	283.58	283.59	0.01	0.00	22.24	8.51
	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	190.61	186.53	199.02	199.04	0.01	0.01	12.51	6.71
	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.03	5.82	5.68	5.67	-0.01	-0.18	-0.15	-2.58
	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4.98	5.31	5.32	5.38	0.06	1.07	0.07	1.38
Major Oilseeds 2/ United States 2/	164.65	161.38	168.80	168.27	1.52	1.55	1.61	1.62	249.70	250.23	272.59	272.55	-0.04	-0.01	22.32	8.92
	33.57	32.58	35.66	35.66	2.06	2.30	2.37	2.37	69.10	74.83	84.56	84.56	0.00	0.00	9.73	13.01
Foreign Oilseeds 2/ South America	131.08	128.80	133.14	132.61	1.38	1.36	1.41	1.42	180.60	175.40	188.03	187.99	-0.04	-0.02	12.59	7.18
Brazil	25.03	25.28	28.12	27.86	1.94	1.95	2.10	2.11	48.47	49.18	59.01	58.71	-0.30	-0.51	9.53	19.38
Argentina	12.19	12.61	13.94	13.94	2.05	2.18	2.21	2.21	24.99	27.45	30.83	30.83	0.00	0.00	3.37	12.28
Paraguay	10.38	10.26	11.45	11.25	1.85	1.68	2.02	2.04	19.24	17.26	23.15	22.90	-0.25	-1.08	5.64	32.68
China	1.48	1.38	1.65	1.59	1.81	2.08	1.93	1.99	2.68	2.87	3.17	3.16	-0.01	-0.25	0.30	10.40
India	25.08	23.23	23.80	23.51	1.73	1.78	1.68	1.74	43.33	41.45	40.09	40.89	0.80	2.00	-0.56	-1.34
European Union	30.40	31.42	31.30	31.30	0.82	0.85	0.85	0.83	24.93	26.62	26.50	26.08	-0.42	-1.58	-0.54	-2.04
France	5.97	5.83	5.93	5.93	2.20	2.19	2.45	2.45	13.14	12.78	14.51	14.51	0.00	0.00	1.73	13.54
Italy	1.92	1.87	1.97	1.97	2.53	2.74	2.94	2.94	4.86	5.11	5.78	5.78	0.00	0.00	0.67	13.11
Germany	0.47	0.58	0.61	0.61	2.60	2.57	2.80	2.80	1.22	1.49	1.71	1.71	0.00	0.00	0.22	14.68
Spain	1.03	0.90	0.94	0.94	3.15	2.31	3.09	3.09	3.24	2.08	2.90	2.90	0.00	0.00	0.82	39.32
United Kingdom	1.09	1.17	1.13	1.13	0.62	1.17	1.04	1.04	0.68	1.38	1.17	1.17	0.00	0.00	-0.21	-15.18
FSU-12	0.44	0.41	0.44	0.44	3.03	3.42	3.39	3.39	1.33	1.41	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.09	6.38
Russia	10.09	9.99	9.55	9.55	1.12	0.86	0.95	0.95	11.28	8.55	9.09	9.09	0.00	0.00	0.54	6.36
Ukraine	4.86	4.65	4.07	4.07	0.95	0.69	0.77	0.77	4.62	3.19	3.14	3.14	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-1.79
Uzbekistan	2.04	2.15	2.24	2.24	1.42	0.99	1.04	1.04	2.90	2.13	2.33	2.33	0.00	0.00	0.20	9.38
Turkmenistan	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.47	1.38	1.57	1.57	2.20	2.07	2.35	2.35	0.00	0.00	0.28	13.53
Canada	0.45	0.45	0.55	0.55	1.22	0.58	0.73	0.73	0.55	0.26	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.14	53.85
Indonesia	6.14	4.35	5.90	5.90	1.43	1.68	1.52	1.52	8.80	7.28	8.97	8.97	0.00	0.00	1.68	23.09
Pakistan	1.99	1.86	1.83	1.83	1.30	1.29	1.31	1.31	2.58	2.41	2.41	2.41	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-0.04
Eastern Europe	3.54	3.73	3.45	3.45	1.14	0.99	1.03	1.03	4.03	3.68	3.57	3.57	0.00	0.00	-0.11	-2.99
Poland	3.11	3.05	2.82	2.83	1.71	1.52	1.54	1.54	5.32	4.64	4.36	4.37	0.01	0.32	-0.27	-5.78
Romania	0.61	0.28	0.32	0.32	2.27	1.59	1.84	1.84	1.38	0.45	0.59	0.59	0.00	0.00	0.14	31.40
Hungary	0.79	0.99	0.83	0.83	1.32	1.31	1.23	1.23	1.04	1.30	1.02	1.02	0.00	0.00	-0.28	-21.22
Turkey	0.53	0.57	0.51	0.51	1.48	1.67	1.66	1.66	0.79	0.95	0.85	0.85	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-10.34
Philippines	1.46	1.37	1.28	1.28	1.49	1.33	1.49	1.49	2.18	1.82	1.92	1.92	0.00	0.00	0.09	5.22
Mexico	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.83	0.87	0.91	0.91	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.01	13.04
Others	0.52	0.38	0.42	0.42	1.33	1.56	1.56	1.50	0.69	0.60	0.65	0.63	-0.02	-3.85	0.03	4.69
	17.68	18.26	18.68	18.70	0.90	0.90	0.91	0.90	15.83	16.36	16.91	16.81	-0.10	-0.62	0.45	2.73

1/ Major oilseeds plus copra and palm kernel. 2/ Individual countries and regions include soybean, cottonseed, peanut (inshell), sunflowerseed, and rapeseed.

TABLE 12
Soybean Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production				
	Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		From last month		From last year		
	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.					
		Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	61.69	63.19	69.36	69.39	2.03	2.08	2.20	2.19	124.96	131.58	152.30	152.26	-0.04	-0.03	20.68	15.72	
United States	24.94	25.66	28.28	28.28	2.38	2.53	2.62	2.62	59.24	64.84	74.22	74.22	0.00	0.00	9.39	14.48	
Total Foreign	36.75	37.52	41.07	41.11	1.79	1.78	1.90	1.90	65.71	66.74	78.08	78.04	-0.04	-0.05	11.30	16.93	
Major Exporters																	
Brazil	18.03	19.20	21.00	21.00	2.16	2.12	2.33	2.33	38.98	40.70	48.90	48.90	0.00	0.00	8.20	20.15	
Argentina	10.95	11.80	12.90	12.90	2.21	2.27	2.33	2.33	24.15	26.80	30.00	30.00	0.00	0.00	3.20	11.94	
Paraguay	5.98	6.20	6.80	6.80	2.08	1.81	2.35	2.35	12.43	11.20	16.00	16.00	0.00	0.00	4.80	42.86	
	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.30	2.18	2.25	2.23	2.23	2.40	2.70	2.90	2.90	0.00	0.00	0.20	7.41	
Other Foreign	18.72	18.32	20.07	20.11	1.43	1.42	1.45	1.45	26.73	26.04	29.18	29.13	-0.04	-0.14	3.10	11.89	
China	8.13	7.47	8.20	8.25	1.66	1.77	1.68	1.67	13.50	13.22	13.80	13.80	0.00	0.00	0.58	4.39	
India	4.82	5.00	5.60	5.60	0.93	0.82	0.96	0.96	4.48	4.10	5.35	5.35	0.00	0.00	1.25	30.49	
Canada	0.82	0.86	1.05	1.05	2.78	2.52	2.57	2.57	2.29	2.17	2.70	2.70	0.00	0.00	0.54	24.71	
Indonesia	1.28	1.18	1.15	1.15	1.19	1.19	1.22	1.22	1.52	1.40	1.40	1.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Eastern Europe	0.17	0.20	0.16	0.16	1.73	1.69	2.18	2.18	0.29	0.34	0.36	0.36	0.00	0.00	0.01	3.78	
European Union	0.29	0.34	0.43	0.43	3.23	3.44	3.37	3.37	0.94	1.15	1.44	1.44	0.00	0.00	0.29	25.07	
FSU-12	0.55	0.55	0.45	0.45	0.66	0.62	0.62	0.62	0.36	0.34	0.28	0.28	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-18.18	
Russia	0.49	0.49	0.39	0.39	0.60	0.58	0.56	0.56	0.29	0.28	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-21.99	
Ukraine	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	1.30	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Mexico	0.13	0.06	0.14	0.14	1.43	1.00	1.43	1.25	0.19	0.06	0.20	0.18	-0.03	-12.50	0.12	191.67	
Thailand	0.28	0.29	0.28	0.28	1.30	1.26	1.29	1.29	0.37	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
North Korea	0.32	0.33	0.33	0.33	1.25	1.23	1.08	1.08	0.40	0.40	0.35	0.35	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-12.50	
Japan	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	1.72	1.71	1.71	1.71	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Bolivia	0.45	0.55	0.63	0.63	2.02	1.83	2.00	2.00	0.90	1.00	1.26	1.26	0.00	0.00	0.26	26.00	
South Korea	0.11	0.10	0.10	0.10	1.52	1.63	1.68	1.68	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Colombia	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.03	2.06	2.00	2.00	1.67	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.05	-0.03	-37.50	-0.02	-28.57	
Others	1.28	1.31	1.45	1.45	0.90	0.88	0.91	0.92	1.15	1.15	1.32	1.33	0.01	1.06	0.19	16.32	

TABLE 13
Cottonseed Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	35.89	33.82	33.68	33.63	1.00	1.02	1.04	1.04	35.93	34.40	35.13	35.07	-0.06	-0.17	0.68	1.97
United States	6.48	5.21	5.38	5.38	0.96	1.24	1.23	1.23	6.21	6.48	6.60	6.60	0.00	0.00	0.12	1.88
Total Foreign	29.41	28.61	28.31	28.26	1.01	0.98	1.01	1.01	29.72	27.92	28.53	28.47	-0.06	-0.21	0.55	1.98
China	5.42	4.72	4.50	4.50	1.58	1.60	1.70	1.72	8.58	7.56	7.64	7.72	0.08	1.05	0.16	2.12
FSU-12	2.57	2.55	2.60	2.60	1.28	1.09	1.21	1.21	3.30	2.78	3.15	3.15	0.00	0.00	0.37	13.19
Uzbekistan	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.47	1.38	1.57	1.57	2.20	2.07	2.35	2.35	0.00	0.00	0.28	13.53
Turkmenistan	0.45	0.45	0.55	0.55	1.22	0.58	0.73	0.73	0.55	0.26	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.14	53.85
India	9.06	9.17	9.00	9.00	0.62	0.64	0.61	0.59	5.65	5.88	5.45	5.33	-0.12	-2.20	-0.55	-9.35
Pakistan	3.05	3.20	2.90	2.90	1.17	0.99	1.05	1.05	3.57	3.18	3.05	3.05	0.00	0.00	-0.13	-4.06
Brazil	1.13	0.70	0.92	0.92	0.58	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.66	0.49	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.16	32.65
Turkey	0.76	0.74	0.70	0.70	1.68	1.48	1.50	1.50	1.28	1.10	1.05	1.05	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-4.55
African Franc Zone	1.61	1.91	2.00	2.00	0.74	0.72	0.76	0.76	1.19	1.37	1.52	1.52	0.00	0.00	0.15	11.21
Australia	0.30	0.40	0.43	0.43	1.98	2.18	2.09	2.09	0.60	0.86	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00	0.04	4.65
Egypt	0.31	0.39	0.36	0.36	1.27	1.45	1.42	1.42	0.39	0.56	0.51	0.51	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-9.41
Argentina	0.96	0.88	1.00	1.00	0.78	0.64	0.80	0.80	0.74	0.56	0.80	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.24	42.86
Paraguay	0.31	0.11	0.28	0.22	0.60	0.71	0.65	0.78	0.19	0.08	0.18	0.17	-0.01	-4.44	0.10	129.33
Greece	0.44	0.42	0.39	0.39	1.52	1.13	1.49	1.49	0.67	0.48	0.58	0.58	0.00	0.00	0.11	22.11
Syria	0.20	0.22	0.25	0.25	2.28	2.39	2.82	2.82	0.45	0.53	0.71	0.71	0.00	0.00	0.18	34.29
Mexico	0.32	0.25	0.20	0.20	1.31	1.86	1.85	1.85	0.42	0.46	0.37	0.37	0.00	0.00	-0.09	-19.21
Colombia	0.11	0.09	0.06	0.06	1.25	1.24	1.13	1.13	0.14	0.11	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-37.61
Sudan	0.22	0.28	0.27	0.27	1.13	0.82	0.79	0.79	0.25	0.23	0.21	0.21	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-8.70
Others	11.70	11.78	11.45	11.45	0.63	0.64	0.62	0.61	7.32	7.58	7.15	7.02	-0.13	-1.85	-0.57	-7.48

TABLE 14
Peanut Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
		Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	21.82	22.11	22.19	22.28	1.30	1.31	1.22	1.24	28.40	28.94	26.96	27.59	0.63	2.34	-1.35	-4.67
United States	0.61	0.56	0.57	0.57	2.56	2.98	2.83	2.83	1.57	1.66	1.61	1.61	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-3.13
Total Foreign	21.21	21.56	21.62	21.71	1.27	1.27	1.17	1.20	26.83	27.28	25.35	25.98	0.63	2.49	-1.30	-4.77
China	3.81	3.62	3.60	3.74	2.68	2.80	2.22	2.36	10.20	10.14	8.00	8.80	0.80	10.00	-1.34	-13.21
India	7.80	8.20	8.10	8.10	0.95	1.00	0.99	0.99	7.40	8.20	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00	-0.20	-2.44
Indonesia	0.69	0.66	0.66	0.66	1.53	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.06	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Senegal	0.88	0.92	0.83	0.79	0.94	0.70	0.87	0.70	0.83	0.65	0.72	0.55	-0.17	-23.61	-0.10	-14.86
Burma	0.50	0.52	0.53	0.53	1.01	1.10	1.11	1.11	0.50	0.57	0.59	0.59	0.00	0.00	0.02	3.87
Sudan	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Zaire	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.80	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.58	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Argentina	0.24	0.28	0.35	0.35	1.93	1.09	1.71	1.71	0.46	0.30	0.60	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.30	100.00
Nigeria	1.77	1.83	2.00	2.00	0.89	0.94	0.88	0.88	1.58	1.72	1.75	1.75	0.00	0.00	0.03	1.57
Vietnam	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	1.28	1.31	1.31	1.31	0.33	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Africa	0.14	0.10	0.06	0.06	1.43	1.47	1.45	1.45	0.19	0.14	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-42.86
Thailand	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	1.52	1.49	1.50	1.50	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-1.32
Burkina Faso	0.26	0.25	0.24	0.24	0.82	0.80	0.83	0.83	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Brazil	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.09	1.93	1.55	1.67	1.67	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.01	8.70
Central African Rep.	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.95	0.94	1.00	1.00	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.01	9.89
Cameroon	0.35	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.29	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.10	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.58
Cote d'Ivoire	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	1.05	1.07	1.04	1.04	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-3.33
Mexico	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	1.26	1.06	1.07	1.07	0.08	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.35
Gambia	0.08	0.06	0.08	0.08	0.96	0.72	0.85	0.85	0.08	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.02	39.13
Others	2.69	2.68	2.72	2.72	0.86	0.85	0.84	0.84	2.32	2.27	2.28	2.29	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.57

TABLE 15
Sunflowerseed Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production							
	1997/98 Proj.			1997/98 Proj.			1997/98 Proj.			From last month		From last year					
	Prel.	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	Prel.	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	Prel.	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent	
	1995/96	1996/97	Feb. <td>Mar.<td>1995/96</td><td>1996/97</td><td>Feb.<td>Mar.<td>1995/96</td><td>1996/97</td><td>Feb.<td>Mar.<td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></td></td></td></td></td>	Mar. <td>1995/96</td> <td>1996/97</td> <td>Feb.<td>Mar.<td>1995/96</td><td>1996/97</td><td>Feb.<td>Mar.<td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></td></td></td></td>	1995/96	1996/97	Feb. <td>Mar.<td>1995/96</td><td>1996/97</td><td>Feb.<td>Mar.<td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></td></td></td>	Mar. <td>1995/96</td> <td>1996/97</td> <td>Feb.<td>Mar.<td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></td></td>	1995/96	1996/97	Feb. <td>Mar.<td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></td>	Mar. <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>					
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare					Million metric tons								
World	20.84	20.10	20.05	19.74	1.24	1.19	1.21	1.21	1.21	25.89	23.90	24.22	23.93	-0.29	-1.19	0.03	0.12
United States	1.36	1.01	1.15	1.15	1.33	1.61	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.82	1.63	1.71	1.71	0.00	0.00	0.08	4.92
Total Foreign	19.47	19.09	18.90	18.59	1.24	1.17	1.19	1.20	1.20	24.07	22.27	22.51	22.22	-0.29	-1.28	-0.05	-0.23
FSU-12	6.56	6.59	6.17	6.17	1.13	0.79	0.88	0.88	0.88	7.38	5.21	5.43	5.43	0.00	0.00	0.22	4.22
Russia	4.10	4.00	3.50	3.50	1.02	0.70	0.80	0.80	0.80	4.20	2.80	2.80	2.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ukraine	2.00	2.11	2.20	2.20	1.43	0.99	1.05	1.05	1.05	2.85	2.10	2.30	2.30	0.00	0.00	0.20	9.52
Argentina	3.20	2.90	3.30	3.10	1.75	1.79	1.74	1.77	1.77	5.60	5.20	5.75	5.50	-0.25	-4.35	0.30	5.77
European Union	2.39	2.35	2.28	2.28	1.34	1.66	1.63	1.63	1.63	3.21	3.90	3.72	3.72	0.00	0.00	-0.17	-4.41
France	0.98	0.92	0.90	0.90	1.95	2.19	2.35	2.35	2.35	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.10	0.00	0.00	0.10	5.00
Spain	0.98	0.99	0.96	0.96	0.59	1.15	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.58	1.14	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00	-0.24	-21.05
Italy	0.25	0.26	0.26	0.26	2.00	2.01	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.50	0.52	0.52	0.52	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-0.57
Eastern Europe	1.95	2.13	1.91	1.91	1.42	1.42	1.35	1.35	1.35	2.76	3.03	2.57	2.57	0.00	0.00	-0.46	-15.25
Hungary	0.49	0.48	0.42	0.42	1.49	1.68	1.67	1.67	1.67	0.73	0.80	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-12.50
Romania	0.72	0.91	0.77	0.77	1.30	1.30	1.17	1.17	1.17	0.93	1.18	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00	-0.28	-23.73
Yugoslavia	0.19	0.23	0.20	0.20	1.76	1.87	1.65	1.65	1.65	0.33	0.43	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-23.26
Bulgaria	0.49	0.45	0.45	0.45	1.33	1.09	1.11	1.11	1.11	0.65	0.49	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.01	2.04
Czech Rep.	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	1.79	1.95	2.24	2.24	2.24	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.01	20.51
China	0.81	0.69	0.80	0.67	1.56	1.92	1.56	1.79	1.79	1.27	1.33	1.25	1.20	-0.05	-4.00	-0.13	-9.43
India	2.17	2.20	2.20	2.20	0.65	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.68	1.40	1.50	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Turkey	0.63	0.55	0.50	0.50	1.20	1.04	1.40	1.40	1.40	0.75	0.57	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.13	22.81
South Africa	0.61	0.46	0.46	0.50	1.24	0.97	0.98	1.00	1.00	0.76	0.45	0.45	0.50	0.05	11.11	0.05	11.11
Australia	0.07	0.14	0.13	0.11	1.19	1.21	1.23	1.05	1.05	0.09	0.17	0.16	0.12	-0.04	-25.00	-0.05	-29.52
Burma	0.18	0.22	0.24	0.24	0.65	0.73	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.12	0.16	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.02	11.80
Others	0.91	0.86	0.91	0.91	0.82	0.89	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.74	0.76	0.80	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.04	4.99

TABLE 16
Rapeseed Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production							
	Prel.			Prel.			Prel.			From last month		From last year					
	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	1995/96	1996/97	Feb.	Mar.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent	
		Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons									
World	24.42	22.16	23.53	23.23	1.41	1.42	1.44	1.45	34.52	31.42	33.98	33.70	-0.28	-0.81	2.28	7.27	
United States	0.18	0.14	0.28	0.28	1.43	1.55	1.47	1.47	0.25	0.22	0.42	0.42	0.00	0.00	0.20	89.95	
Total Foreign	24.25	22.01	23.24	22.94	1.41	1.42	1.44	1.45	34.27	31.20	33.56	33.29	-0.28	-0.82	2.09	6.69	
India	6.55	6.86	6.40	6.40	0.92	1.01	0.97	0.92	6.00	6.94	6.20	5.90	-0.30	-4.84	-1.04	-15.01	
China	6.91	6.73	6.70	6.35	1.42	1.37	1.40	1.48	9.78	9.20	9.40	9.37	-0.03	-0.32	0.17	1.85	
Canada	5.27	3.45	4.80	4.80	1.22	1.47	1.29	1.29	6.44	5.06	6.20	6.20	0.00	0.00	1.14	22.48	
European Union	2.82	2.64	2.72	2.72	2.93	2.70	3.16	3.16	8.27	7.14	8.58	8.58	0.00	0.00	1.44	20.22	
France	0.85	0.87	0.97	0.97	3.20	3.32	3.51	3.51	2.70	2.87	3.40	3.40	0.00	0.00	0.53	18.47	
Germany	0.97	0.85	0.90	0.90	3.21	2.31	3.11	3.11	3.13	1.97	2.80	2.80	0.00	0.00	0.83	42.13	
United Kingdom	0.44	0.41	0.44	0.44	3.03	3.42	3.39	3.39	1.33	1.41	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.09	6.38	
Denmark	0.15	0.11	0.11	0.11	2.05	2.38	2.76	2.76	0.31	0.25	0.29	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.04	16.00	
Sweden	0.11	0.06	0.07	0.07	2.05	2.10	2.00	2.00	0.22	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-1.52	
Eastern Europe	0.97	0.69	0.73	0.74	2.32	1.82	1.95	1.94	2.26	1.26	1.43	1.44	0.01	0.98	0.18	14.39	
Poland	0.61	0.28	0.32	0.32	2.27	1.59	1.84	1.84	1.38	0.45	0.59	0.59	0.00	0.00	0.14	31.40	
Czech Rep.	0.25	0.23	0.24	0.24	2.63	2.30	2.29	2.29	0.66	0.52	0.55	0.55	0.00	0.00	0.03	5.57	
Australia	0.41	0.42	0.65	0.69	1.38	1.52	1.18	1.18	0.56	0.64	0.77	0.81	0.04	5.19	0.17	26.56	
FSU-12	0.42	0.31	0.33	0.33	0.56	0.70	0.72	0.72	0.23	0.21	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.02	8.88	
Russia	0.28	0.17	0.18	0.18	0.45	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.13	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.01	4.55	
Pakistan	0.32	0.34	0.35	0.35	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.26	0.27	0.28	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.01	2.94	
Bangladesh	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.71	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.24	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Others	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.96	0.97	0.96	0.96	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	-0.00	-0.00	-0.00	-0.00	

March 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 17
Copra, Palm Kernel, and Palm Oil Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Production				Change in Production			
	1995/96	Prel. 1996/97	1997/98 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
			Feb.	Mar.				
	Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
COPRA								
World	5.03	5.82	5.68	5.67	-0.01	-0.18	-0.15	-2.58
Philippines	1.97	2.25	2.30	2.30	0.00	0.00	0.05	2.22
Indonesia	1.46	1.93	1.70	1.70	0.00	0.00	-0.23	-11.92
India	0.61	0.64	0.68	0.68	0.00	0.00	0.04	6.25
Mexico	0.22	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sri Lanka	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vietnam	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Malaysia	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.54	-0.01	-1.85	-0.01	-1.82
PALM KERNEL								
World	4.98	5.31	5.32	5.38	0.06	1.06	0.07	1.38
Malaysia	2.48	2.63	2.57	2.57	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-2.24
Indonesia	1.41	1.59	1.65	1.70	0.05	2.94	0.11	6.92
Nigeria	0.27	0.26	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-3.85
Cote d'Ivoire	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.06	-0.00	-6.35	0.00	6.78
Colombia	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.08	-0.00	-1.32	0.00	1.33
Thailand	0.09	0.09	0.11	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.01	14.13
Zaire	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ecuador	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	0.53	0.53	0.53	0.55	0.01	2.20	0.01	2.64
PALM OIL								
World	16.17	17.47	17.46	17.59	0.13	0.72	0.12	0.67
Malaysia	8.26	9.01	8.80	8.80	0.00	0.00	-0.20	-2.28
Indonesia	4.85	5.30	5.40	5.50	0.10	1.82	0.20	3.77
Nigeria	0.59	0.60	0.59	0.59	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-1.67
Cote d'Ivoire	0.30	0.29	0.32	0.30	-0.02	-6.67	0.02	5.26
Colombia	0.39	0.41	0.42	0.44	0.03	5.68	0.03	7.32
Thailand	0.37	0.40	0.45	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.05	12.50
Zaire	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ecuador	0.22	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	1.08	1.11	1.12	1.15	0.02	1.92	0.04	3.34

March 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 18

Cotton Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change In Production			
	Prel.				Prel.				Prel.				From last month			
	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98 Proj.	1997/98 Proj.	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98 Proj.	1997/98 Proj.	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98 Proj.	1997/98 Proj.	From last month	From last month	From last month	From last year
	Million hectares				Kilograms per hectare				Million 480 lb. bales				MBales	Percent	MBales	Percent
World	35.93	33.87	33.73	33.73	564	574	587	581	93.03	89.25	91.00	90.08	-0.92	-1.01	0.84	0.94
United States	6.48	5.21	5.38	5.38	602	792	769	769	17.90	18.94	18.98	18.98	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.18
Total Foreign	29.46	28.66	28.35	28.36	555	534	553	546	75.13	70.31	72.02	71.11	-0.92	-1.27	0.80	1.14
Major Exporters	16.64	15.86	15.96	15.95	696	661	690	693	53.19	48.18	50.59	50.81	0.22	0.44	2.63	5.47
China	5.42	4.72	4.50	4.50	879	890	943	953	21.90	19.30	19.50	19.70	0.20	1.03	0.40	2.07
Pakistan	3.05	3.20	2.90	2.90	586	497	526	526	8.20	7.30	7.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	-0.30	-4.11
Sudan	0.22	0.28	0.27	0.27	485	358	329	329	0.49	0.46	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-13.04
Turkey	0.76	0.74	0.70	0.70	1,125	1,054	1,026	1,026	3.91	3.60	3.30	3.30	0.00	0.00	-0.30	-8.33
FSU-12	2.57	2.55	2.60	2.60	699	556	611	611	8.26	6.50	7.31	7.31	0.00	0.00	0.81	12.46
Uzbekistan	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	833	689	784	784	5.74	4.75	5.40	5.40	0.00	0.00	0.65	13.68
Turkmenistan	0.45	0.45	0.55	0.55	556	290	356	356	1.15	0.60	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00	0.30	50.00
Other	0.62	0.60	0.55	0.55	479	421	397	397	1.37	1.15	1.01	1.01	0.00	0.00	-0.14	-12.17
Egypt	0.31	0.39	0.36	0.36	774	882	877	877	1.09	1.57	1.45	1.45	0.00	0.00	-0.12	-7.53
African Franc Zone	1.61	1.91	2.00	2.06	424	418	445	440	3.14	3.66	4.10	4.15	0.05	1.22	0.49	13.36
Southern Hemisphere	2.70	2.08	2.63	2.57	499	607	624	635	6.20	5.79	7.53	7.50	-0.03	-0.33	1.71	29.58
Argentina	0.96	0.88	1.00	1.00	437	369	457	457	1.93	1.49	2.10	2.10	0.00	0.00	0.61	40.66
Australia	0.30	0.40	0.43	0.43	1,425	1,537	1,519	1,519	1.97	2.79	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.21	7.60
Brazil	1.13	0.70	0.92	0.92	345	407	450	450	1.79	1.30	1.90	1.90	0.00	0.00	0.60	46.15
Paraguay	0.31	0.11	0.28	0.22	355	429	416	495	0.51	0.21	0.53	0.50	-0.02	-4.76	0.29	141.55
Major Importers	0.54	0.55	0.55	0.55	939	745	885	885	2.32	1.88	2.25	2.25	0.00	0.00	0.37	19.67
Other Foreign	12.28	12.25	11.84	11.85	348	360	353	332	19.62	20.25	19.19	18.05	-1.14	-5.94	-2.20	-10.88
India	9.06	9.17	9.00	9.00	318	327	310	283	13.25	13.78	12.80	11.70	-1.10	-8.59	-2.08	-15.10
Others	3.22	3.09	2.84	2.85	432	456	489	485	6.37	6.47	6.39	6.35	-0.04	-0.63	-0.12	-1.87

March 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 19

The table below presents a 16-year record of the differences between the March projection and the final estimate. Using world wheat production as an example, changes between the March projection and the final estimate have averaged 3.1 million tons (0.6 percent) and ranged from -8.0 to 6.9 million tons. The March projection has been below the final 10 times and above the final 6 times.

RELIABILITY OF PRODUCTION PROJECTIONS

COMMODITY AND REGION	PROJECTION AND FINAL ESTIMATES, 1981/82 - 1996/97 1/					
	Difference		Lowest	Highest	Below	Above
	Average	Average	Difference		Final	Final
	Percent	---Million metric tons---			Number of years 2/	
WHEAT						
World	0.6	3.1	-8.0	6.9	10	6
U.S.	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	8	3
Foreign	0.7	3.1	-8.0	6.9	10	6
COARSE GRAINS 3/						
World	0.8	6.7	-17.3	4.1	12	4
U.S.	0.1	0.1	-0.2	1.3	9	3
Foreign	1.2	6.8	-17.3	4.2	12	4
RICE (Milled)						
World	1.1	3.7	-10.0	2.3	13	3
U.S.	0.9	0.0	-0.2	0.1	5	1
Foreign	1.2	3.7	-9.9	2.3	13	3
SOYBEANS						
World	1.5	1.5	-3.0	2.6	8	8
U.S.	1.1	0.6	-1.6	1.8	7	6
Foreign	2.2	1.1	-2.2	2.6	9	7
			---Million 480-lb. bales---			
COTTON						
World	1.3	1.1	-2.9	3.0	8	7
U.S.	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.3	3	12
Foreign	1.6	1.1	-3.2	2.9	8	7
UNITED STATES			-----Million bushels-----			
CORN	0.1	3	-8	38	1	1
SORGHUM	0.1	0	0	4	0	2
BARLEY	0.4	2	-3	11	8	2
OATS	0.1	0	-2	1	3	1

1/ The final estimate for 1981/82-1996/97 is defined as the first November estimate following the marketing year.

2/ May not total 16 if projection was the same as the final.

3/ Includes corn, sorghum, barley, oats, rye, millet, and mixed grain.

March 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

WORLD AGRICULTURAL WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS

March 12, 1998

**1 - UNITED STATES**

In California, record February rainfall curtailed fieldwork. Unseasonably mild weather and adequate moisture prompted hard red winter wheat to begin breaking dormancy. Heavy snow provided much-needed insulation in early March prior to a bitter cold Arctic air outbreak. Soggy February weather that disrupted fieldwork in the Southeast gave way to sub-freezing low temperatures around March 11. Fruit trees and tender vegetables were at risk of freeze damage. Beneficial snow fell in the northern Plains.

2 - SOUTH AMERICA

In Argentina, ideal weather continued to benefit first and second crop soybeans. Excessive wetness, however, in early March caused some damage to mature sunflowers. In southern Brazil, above normal February rainfall favored reproductive to filling soybeans across most of southern Brazil.

3 - EUROPE

Unseasonably mild weather accelerated early growth of winter grains in the west and north and caused early greening of crops in eastern Europe. Early spring fieldwork advanced in southern Europe, helped by several days of dry weather. Recently, colder weather prevailed over the northern half of the continent, slowing winter crop growth.

4 - FSU-WESTERN

Overwintering conditions remained favorable for winter grains. Unusually cold weather in early February was followed by a warming trend that persisted until month's end in the west and south. The mild weather favored winter grains but melted protective snow cover. In Russia, a moderate to deep snow cover protected winter grains from wide fluctuation in temperatures.

7 - SOUTH ASIA

A cooling trend continued across northern winter grain and oilseed areas, slowing growth. Unseasonable heat in southern India enhanced evaporative losses. Showers since late February have kept northern winter crops moist but reportedly caused some flooding in Pakistan.

8 - EASTERN ASIA

Above normal early March temperatures caused winter wheat to begin breaking dormancy across the North China Plain. Above normal February rainfall provided adequate moisture for the greening wheat crop and favored transplanting early double-crop across southern China.

9 - SOUTHEAST ASIA

Across southern Sumatra and Java, above normal February rainfall favored main-season rice. Drought continued across the eastern Philippines and eastern Malaysia (Sabah and Sarawak). Near normal February rainfall favored oil palm across the Malay Peninsula.

10 - AUSTRALIA

Heavy showers soaked the primary sorghum and cotton areas in early February, benefiting immature crops but causing localized flooding. Warm, dry weather over the past few weeks has been generally favorable for maturing summer crops although locally heavy tropical showers have lingered over northern sugarcane areas.

USDA/OCE - World Agricultural Outlook Board
Joint Agricultural Weather Facility

5 - NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Below-normal precipitation in February and early March in Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia reduced moisture reserves for winter grains, nearing the heading stage.

6 - SOUTH AFRICA

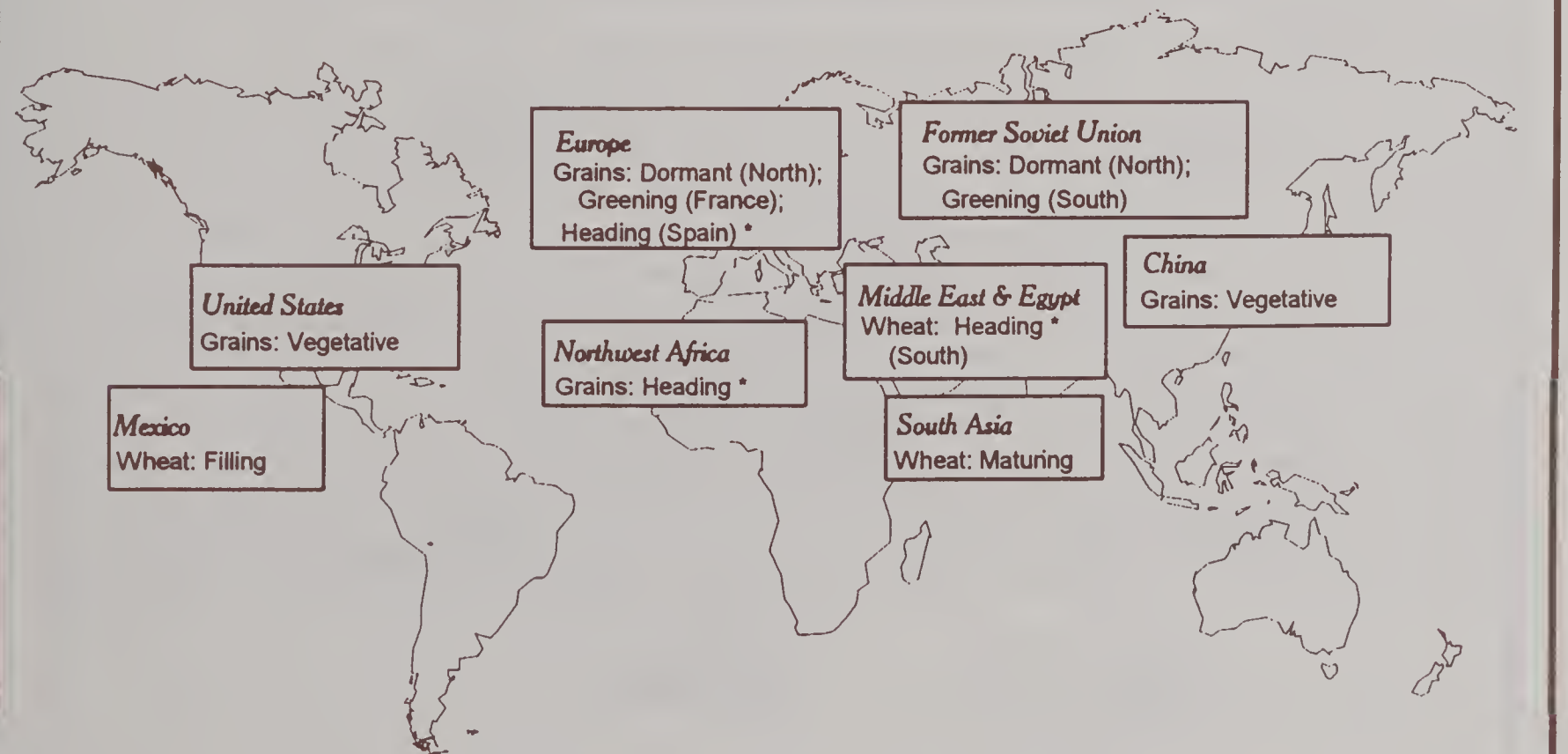
In early February, a brief heat wave stressed reproductive to filling corn. This was immediately followed by locally heavy showers that brought widespread relief to summer grains and oilseeds but flooded some coastal sugarcane. Warm weather and sunny skies are now needed to help crops reach maturity prior to the first autumn freeze.

March normal crop calendar

Summer crops



Winter crops

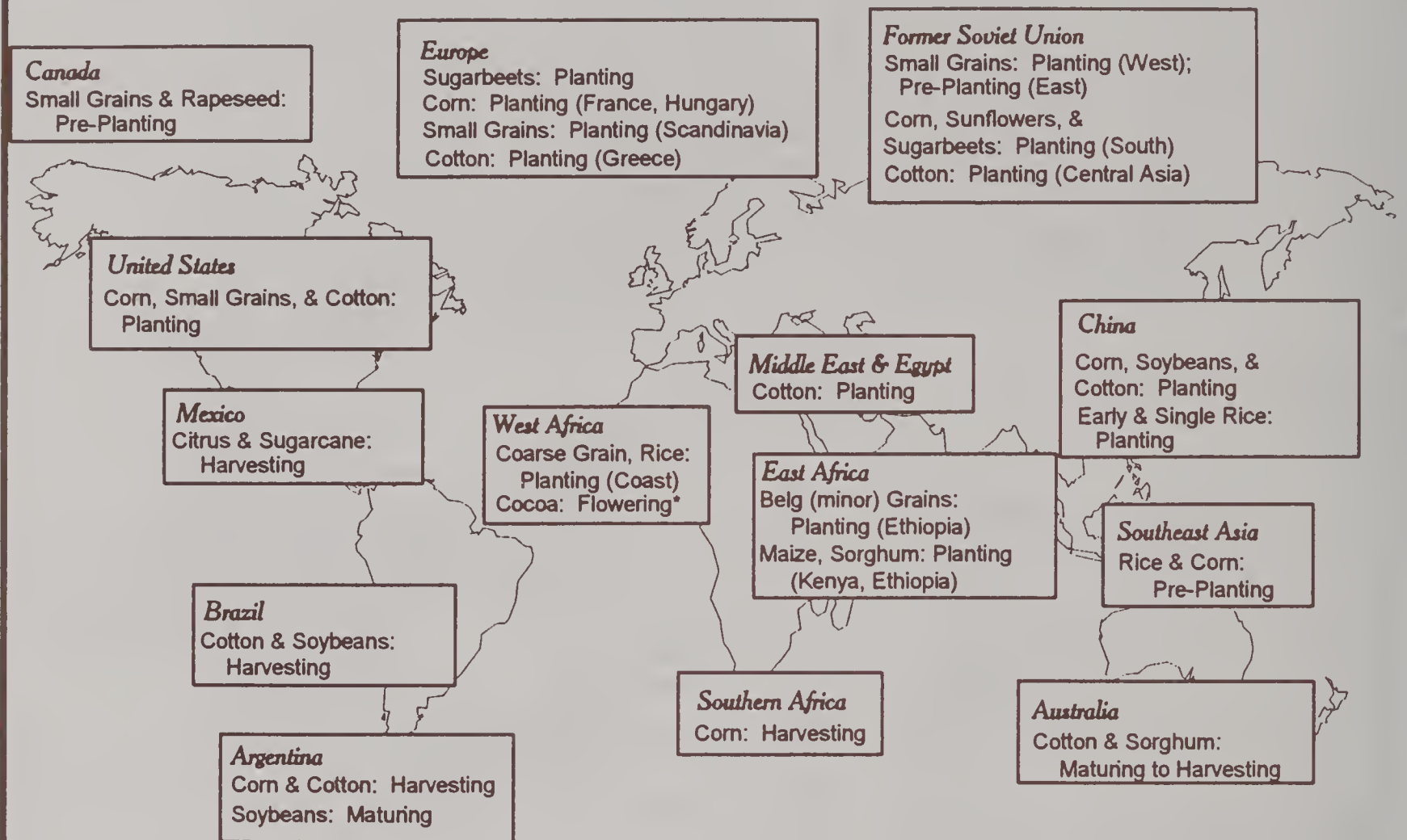


* Moisture / Temperature Sensitive Stage of Development

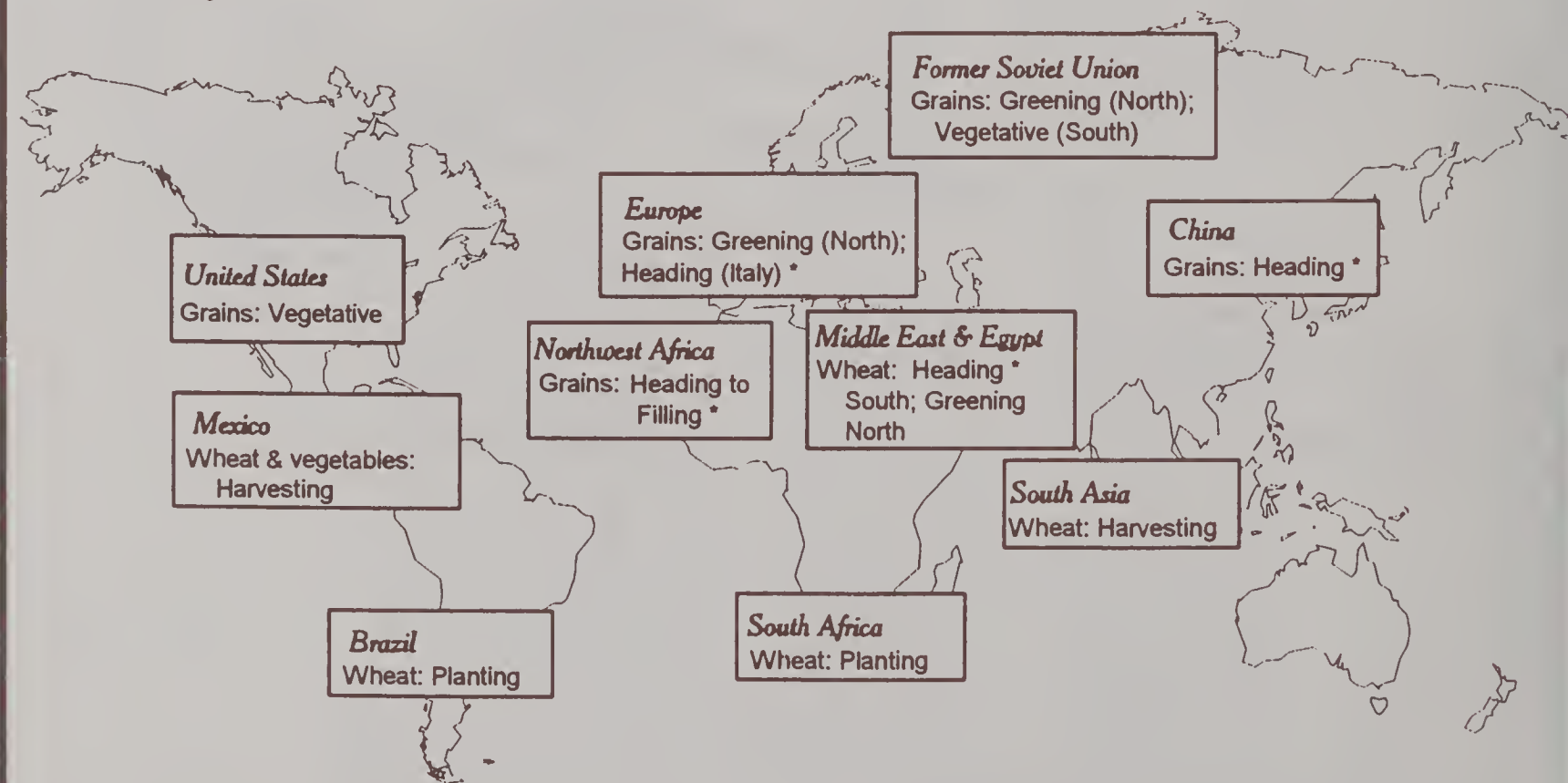
JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY (NOAA/USDA)

April normal crop calendar

Summer crops



Winter crops



* Moisture / Temperature Sensitive Stage of Development

JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY (NOAA/USDA)

WEATHER BRIEFS

SOUTH AFRICA: RAIN FOLLOWED BY WARM SUNNY WEATHER FAVORS CORN CROP

During January 1998, rainfall averaged near-to-above normal across South Africa's corn belt while temperatures averaged near-to-below normal for much of the month. Rainfall totaled only about 70 percent of normal in traditionally higher yielding sections of the north and east, but timing was favorable for crops. Some locations went three weeks without significant rain in late January to early February which, along with a summer heat wave, caused crop stress and dried top soils. During the first week of February, mostly dry weather covered the corn areas of South Africa, increasing stress on vegetative to reproductive corn. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees Celsius ° above normal as highs ranged from 30 to 35 degrees °. Isolated showers brought only local relief to the western corn areas. From February 8 - 14, scattered showers swept across the corn belt, bringing some relief to reproductive corn. The heaviest rain fell from southeastern Free State to the southern coast of Kwazulu-Natal, with lighter showers covering the northern and western corn areas. Temperatures averaged above normal for the week, although the rains brought daily highs down to more seasonable levels later in the week. During February 15 - 21, widespread showers covered the corn belt, benefitting reproductive to filling crops. Temperatures averaged 2 degrees ° below normal, with highs ranging from the mid 20's to low 30's °. Although the lack of heat stress was favorable for corn condition, crops at many locations were substantially behind in development and need to accumulate heating units before April, when autumn weather usually arrives. During the last week of February, showers tapered off across the corn belt, with most locations receiving less than 10 millimeters. The exception was a section of the east, centered over the border between Free State and Kwazulu-Natal, where rainfall ranged from 25 to 97 millimeters. The band of wetness extended southward into Eastern Cape but missed primary sugarcane areas, allowing some recovery from recent excessive rainfall. Temperatures averaged near to above normal, spurring growth of reproductive to filling corn. A continuation of warm weather and sunny skies would greatly improve the chances of corn and sunflowers escaping damage from an autumn (April - May) freeze.

ARGENTINA: FREQUENT RAINS MAINTAIN ADEQUATE-TO-SURPLUS SOIL MOISTURE

In January 1998, above-normal rainfall and below-normal temperatures produced ideal growing conditions for corn and soybeans in central Argentina. However, the wet, cool weather increased disease potential for maturing sunflowers. During the first week of February, widespread rain and cool temperatures in central Argentina maintained ideal conditions for reproductive soybeans and filling corn. Heavier showers fell across northern Argentina, boosting moisture supplies for cotton but caused some flooding. During February 8 - 14, light, early-week rain maintained soil moisture for reproductive to filling corn and soybeans in central Argentina. Drier, slightly warmer weather later in the week helped to reduce summer crop disease potential. Early-week, heavy showers caused some flooding in the cotton areas of northern Argentina and southern Paraguay. During February 15 - 21, widespread rain returned to central Argentina, maintaining abundant soil moisture for reproductive to filling corn and soybeans. Temperatures averaged near normal for the first time since mid-December. Moderate showers, for the most part, favored cotton in northern Argentina and southern Paraguay, but again caused some isolated flooding. During the last week of February, light to moderate rain benefitted reproductive to filling soybeans in central Argentina. Late-week, dry weather aided maturing corn and sunflowers. Heavy showers continued to soak cotton areas of northern Argentina and southern Paraguay.

BRAZIL: HEAVY SHOWERS MAINTAIN HIGH SOIL MOISTURE IN SOUTHERN BRAZIL

During January 1998, rainfall was above-normal in Rio Grande do Sul and near-normal to normal elsewhere in southern Brazil. This moisture was particularly beneficial to soybeans. During the first week of February, heavy showers fell in Rio Grande do Sul and Parana, aiding soybeans. Elsewhere in southern Brazil, moderate showers favored reproductive soybeans, where temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees Celsius ° above normal. During February 8 - 14, widespread moderate showers covered the main soybean areas, maintaining adequate soil moisture for filling soybeans. Temperatures were below normal across Rio Grande do Sul, near normal to normal in Parana, and 2 to 3 degrees ° above normal elsewhere. From February 15 - 21, drier weather reduced disease potential in Rio Grande do Sul. Elsewhere, moderate showers maintained soil moisture for filling soybeans. Heavy showers, however, caused some flooding in south-central Minas Gerais and northeastern Sao Paulo. Temperatures averaged 2 to 3 degrees ° above normal across southern Brazil. During February 22 - 28, excessive showers in Rio Grande do Sul caused local flooding and increased disease potential for filling to maturing soybeans. Heavy showers also caused flooding in southern Paraguay. Elsewhere in southern Brazil, moderate showers maintained favorable moisture for filling to maturing soybeans.

PRODUCTION BRIEFS

INDIA: COTTON PRODUCTION ESTIMATE LOWERED DUE TO RAIN DAMAGE

The 1997/98 Indian cotton crop is forecasts at 11.7 million bales, 15 percent lower than the record crop of 13.8 million produced in 1996/97, and 1.1 million lower than last month's estimate. Area is forecast at 9.0 million hectares unchanged from last month, but 2 percent less than last year's record of 9.2 million. The forecasted yield is 14 percent lower than last year's record of 330 kilograms per hectare, and 8 percent less than the five-year average. This year's cotton crop had beneficial growing conditions during the first part of the season. However, during the second half of the season, untimely rains and pest attacks caused extensive damage in major cotton growing states. A recent assessment of the 1997/98 cotton crop by the Cotton Advisory Board of India revealed higher losses than previously estimated. Unusually heavy rains in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and late-season rains in Punjab and Haryana accompanied by pest attacks were cited for the production decreases. In addition, the above average precipitation precludes additional late-season harvesting. In previous seasons, 1995/96 and 1996/97, dry weather and sunny conditions were conducive to additional pickings, thereby increasing yields.

CHINA: HIGHER ESTIMATES FOR CORN AND PEANUTS

A serious drought cut 1997/98 coarse grain and oilseed yields in northern China but the impact was less than initially expected, according to Chinese officials and the U.S. agricultural counselor in Beijing. China's 1997/98 corn crop is estimated at 110.0 million tons, up 5.0 million or 5 percent from last month, but down 14 percent from last year's record crop of 127.5 million. Corn area was down 4 percent in 1997, and the drought in northern China resulted in below-average yields. No official Chinese Government estimates of corn production by province are currently available, but preliminary reports indicate the largest year-to-year production declines occurred in Shandong, Liaoning, and Jilin provinces. The estimate for China's 1997/98 peanut crop was raised to 8.8 million tons, up 0.8 million or 10 percent from last month, but down 13 percent from last year's near-record crop. Although peanut area increased by an estimated 3 percent in 1997, the drought hurt yields in the main peanut-growing provinces of northern China.

INDONESIA: CORN AND RICE OUTPUT REVISED LOWER

Staff from the USDA agricultural counselor's office at the American Embassy in Jakarta traveled to the food crop production areas in East, Central, and West Java. Corn production, especially in the major producing areas in East Java, have been seriously affected by extended drought. Indonesia's corn output for 1997/98 is estimated at 5.7 million tons, down 0.8 million from last month and down 0.3 million from a revised 6.0 million in 1996/97. The El Nino-induced drought during the latter half of 1997 (affecting the 1996/97 crop) reduced harvested area to 3.2 million hectares, down nearly 0.4 million from last month's estimate. The drought continued to have a severe impact on the 1997/98 crop, which has led to a further reduction in output from last year to 5.7 million tons. Harvested area for 1997/98 is unchanged from last season at 3.2 million hectares. Hybrid corn accounts for an estimated 20 percent of the total corn produced on Java and has an average yield of 7 tons per hectare. Farmers are somewhat reluctant to plant hybrid corn due to the higher cost of production even though revenues can triple.

Rice production for 1997/98 is estimated at 30.9 million tons (milled basis), down 0.1 million from last month and 4 percent from last year. The 1996/97 crop is revised upwards this month by 1.0 million tons to 32.5 million. Preliminary data recently released from the Government of Indonesia indicate that the 1996/97 rice area decline was more than offset by an increase in yield. The drop in area, to 11.1 million hectares, was directly related to El Nino and the resulting drought that began affecting the crop in late 1997.

A further area decline is estimated for the 1997/98 rice crop, to 10.8 million hectares, due to below-normal rainfall that resulted in late planting. Rice yield is estimated to fall to 4.40 tons per hectare, down from last season's record of 4.47. Yield reductions in key growing areas of Java, Sulawesi, and southern Sumatra are the result of cumulative rainfall from October through mid-February that were 40 to 60 percent of normal. In addition, the delayed harvest of the first crop will push back the planting of the second crop into the May/June period. If monsoon rains end as normal around April, the second crop will be largely limited to irrigated areas--indicating a further decline in rice production. The first rice crop accounts for about 50 percent of the total rice crop; the second 30 percent; and a third crop of 20 percent.

EUROPEAN UNION: WHEAT CROP REVISED LOWER; COARSE GRAIN HIGHER

Wheat production for 1997/98 in the European Union (EU-15) is estimated at 94.5 million tons, down 0.7 million from last month and down 4 percent from last year's record. This month's reduction is a result of post-harvest reports from Italy, Netherlands, and Ireland that indicated reduced yields. However, this season's crop has produced the second highest yield and production for the EU-15. Harvested area is estimated at 17.1 million hectares, up 0.4 million from 1996/97 and the highest since 17.4 million in 1992/93.

Total coarse grain production for 1997/98 is estimated at a record 109.2 million tons, up 0.5 million from last month and up 5 percent from last year. Most of the increase is due to corn harvest results from France and Italy that indicated increased yields. Owing to favorable weather and increased area, France and Italy are estimated to produce record corn crops of 16.8 and 9.8 million tons, respectively. Total EU-15 corn production is a record 38.4 million tons. Barley output is estimated at 52.7 million tons, the highest level since 56.9 million in 1991/92.

AUSTRALIA: COARSE GRAIN PRODUCTION DOWN

Australian coarse grain production for 1997/98 is forecast at 8.9 million tons, down 0.4 million from last month and down 12 percent from 1996/97. The 1997/98 Australian barley crop is estimated at 6.0 million tons, 12 percent smaller than last year. A drier growing season and smaller planted area contributed to lower production. Sorghum production for the 1997/98 crop is forecast 1 percent lower than in 1996/97 at 1.2 million tons. The production of oats in 1997/98 is forecast at 1.2 million tons up 0.1 million tons from last month, but down 23 percent from last year. The area planted to oats has decreased from last year due to the relative attractiveness of wheat production. In 1996/97, about 1.1 million hectares were planted to oats, in contrast to this year's area of 850,000 hectares.

INDIA: RICE PRODUCTION FORECAST AT A RECORD

Rice production in India for 1997/98 is estimated at 82.0 million tons (milled basis), 0.5 million higher than last month and 1 percent higher than the record crop of 81.2 million produced in 1996/97. Area is forecast at 42.2 million hectares unchanged from last month, but 1 percent less than the record area of 42.7 million hectares in 1996/97. Yield is forecast at a record 2.92 tons per hectare. Production reached record levels in the major surplus rice producing states of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, however some qualitative losses occurred due to heavy rains at harvest time. Also, higher production is reported in the larger non-irrigated rice growing states of Orissa, Bihar and West Bengal due to well-distributed kharif-season rains. In Andhra Pradesh, early-season drought and untimely heavy rains at harvest time constrained yield potential.

MEXICO: SORGHUM ESTIMATE REDUCED DUE TO MOISTURE CONCERNS

Mexico's 1997/8 sorghum production estimate was reduced this month from 6.2 million tons to 5.8 million, a month-to-month change of 6 percent. Area was reduced from 1.8 million hectares to 1.7 million, also a month-to-month change of 6 percent. The changes were due to less than anticipated summer production and reduced planted area for the winter crop. Mexico moisture reserves have not yet recovered from the 3-year drought of the mid-90s, and the recent El Nino event of lower-than-normal precipitation has exasperated that recovery.

UNITED STATES: CROP CONDITION AND PROGRESS

A wet weather pattern that began last October continued in the Gulf and Atlantic Coast States. Field activities in the Southeast were often halted by rainfall and soils too saturated to support equipment. Some cotton and soybean fields remained unharvested in the Southeast and may be abandoned if wet weather continues. In Florida, frequent rains delayed the sugarcane harvest and other fieldwork. Harvesting of vegetable crops, strawberries, and citrus was active throughout the month when weather conditions permitted.

Unseasonably mild temperatures and adequate soil moisture conditions were reported over the major winter wheat-producing States. Snow cover protection was mostly adequate in the northern High Plains, but light or nonexistent elsewhere, leaving much of the crop susceptible to harsh weather. However, only small amount of wind and freeze damage have occurred to the wheat crop so far. By the end of the month, the winter wheat crop had begun to break dormancy in Kansas and the eastern Corn Belt States. Farther south, the crop was jointing in Oklahoma and heading in southern Texas.

Mild weather in the Corn Belt permitted some tillage and other field preparation activities in isolated areas, but in most areas the ground had thawed and too muddy to support heavy equipment. Lack of frost left feedlots and pastures muddy as well. Farmers were concerned about the effects of the mild

weather on insect populations, weed pressures, and disease problems for the upcoming growing season.

In the Northeast, maple producers began tapping trees. Although the warm weather did not adversely affect fruit trees during February, growers were concerned that tender buds could sustain damage later, if the weather suddenly turned colder. Farmers were still assessing damage from the storm, but some damage to alfalfa fields and sugar bushes was noted from the January ice storms.

In California, record rainfall in many areas hampered vegetable harvests, curtailed field preparation activities, and postponed tomato planting. Standing water in low-lying areas stressed crops. In the Pacific Northwest, warm weather was bringing fruit trees out of dormancy earlier than normal.

FORMER SOVIET UNION: WEATHER AND CROP DEVELOPMENTS

In February, overwintering conditions continued mostly favorable for winter grains in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics. In early February, bitterly cold weather was accompanied by light to moderate snow in most areas. Minimum temperatures ranged from -15 to -30 degrees Celsius ° as far south as southern Ukraine and the North Caucasus region in Russia. A fresh snow cover in most areas protected winter grains from potential widespread damage. On February 9, a warming trend began in winter grain areas in Ukraine, the North Caucasus region in Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics and continued until month's end. The warmer weather improved overwintering conditions for winter grains, but melted protective snow cover. In most of Russia, although temperatures fluctuated widely during February, a moderate to deep snow cover protected winter grains from potential damage. Above-normal precipitation fell in Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics in February, boosting potential moisture reserves. More than twice the normal amount of moisture fell in the North Caucasus region in Russia. Winter grain areas in Ukraine continued to receive below-normal precipitation in February. The lack of snow cover and generally dry weather in Ukraine favored early season fieldwork, including early spring fertilizer applications. In early March, unusually mild weather prevailed over most of the region, causing a further loss of protective snow cover. Furthermore, the mild weather caused winter grains to lose cold hardiness, leaving them highly susceptible to potential extreme cold. Recently, cooler weather prevailed in the western Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics, accompanied by light snow. Rain in central and eastern Ukraine boosted moisture reserves.

Tom Puterbaugh 720-2012 (March 1998)

FORMER SOVIET UNION (WESTERN)

AVERAGE DATES OF DISAPPEARANCE OF SUSTAINED SNOW COVER



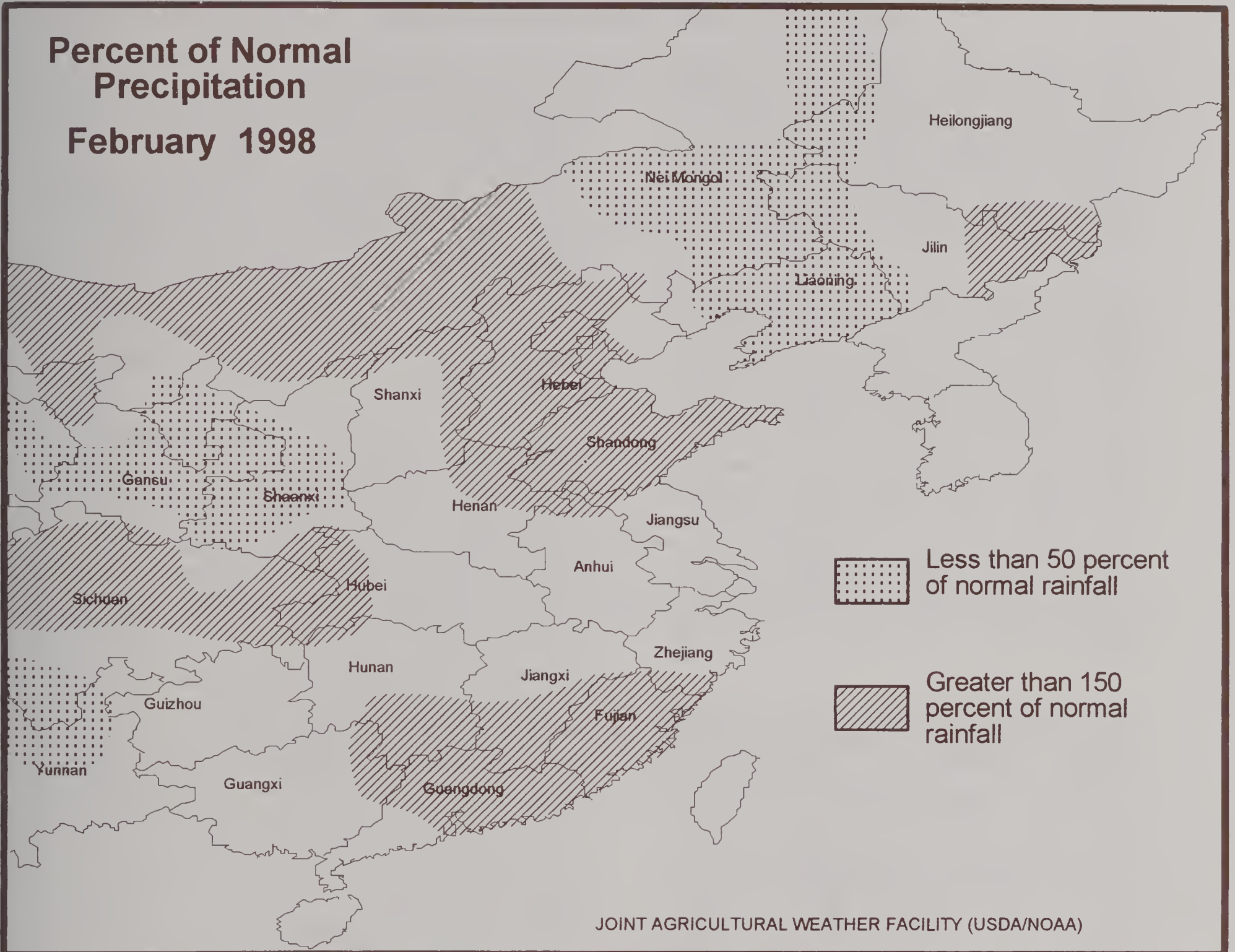
WEATHER AND CROP HIGHLIGHTS

March 12, 1998

- o In early February, bitterly cold weather was accompanied by light to moderate snow, protecting winter grains from potential widespread winterkill.
- o On February 9, a warming trend began in western and southern areas and persisted until month's end, improving overwintering conditions for winter grains but melting protective snow cover.
- o The early loss of snow cover in Ukraine, southern Russia, and Belarus was accompanied by generally dry weather in late February and early March, likely allowing some early season fieldwork.

MAP 5 CHINA

Percent of Normal Precipitation February 1998



WEATHER AND CROP HIGHLIGHTS MARCH 12, 1998

- In early March, above normal temperatures caused winter wheat to begin breaking dormancy across the North China Plain. Above normal February rainfall provided adequate moisture for the greening wheat crop.
- In February, above-normal rainfall increased disease potentials for much of Yangtze Valley. The rainfall, however, favored transplanted early double-crop across southern China.

RUSSIA AND UKRAINE 1998/99 WINTER GRAINS

The outlook for 1998/99 winter-grain production in Russia and Ukraine is mixed, as usual. October rainfall caused disruptions in fall planting and resulted in year-to-year reductions in sown winter-grain area in Ukraine and southern Russia. Establishment conditions, however, were favorable, and winterkill is lower than normal in both Russia and Ukraine.

Typically, Russian winter grains comprise 25 percent of total grain area but account for 40 percent of total production. In 1997/98, winter-wheat area dropped 0.8 million hectares to an estimated 8.5 million. Wheat is Russia's predominant winter grain, and is sown primarily in the fertile *chernozem* (black soils) zone. Rye is the other major winter grain; estimated 1997/98 area is 4.0 million hectares, down only slightly from the previous year. A relatively small amount of winter barley—roughly 0.4 million hectares—is sown in the extreme southern fringe of Russia's winter-grain region.

Total Russian winter-grain area on State enterprises for 1998/99 reached 12.8 million hectares, according to SovEcon, an independent Moscow-based agriculture research organization. Although the total nearly matched last season's 13.0 million hectares, plantings fell nearly 20 percent in the key North Caucasus region where wet weather interfered with the final stages of the fall sowing campaign. Meanwhile, winter-grain sowings in the Volga Valley reached 3.4 million hectares and, for the first time in recent years, the Volga Valley surpassed the North Caucasus in winter-grain area.

In Ukraine, wheat comprises nearly 90 percent of winter-grain area. Although reports from the State Statistical Committee indicate that 7.5 million hectares of winter grains were sown for 1998/99, some independent observers estimate that only 6.9 million hectares were planted, down 0.6 million from last year and substantially short of the official target of 7.9 million hectares. The lower sown-area estimate is supported by the occurrence of untimely October rains and the delayed harvest of a bumper corn crop which combined to impede sowing progress.

Establishment conditions were generally favorable for establishment of winter grains throughout the western portion of the former Soviet Union. The October rainfall that hampered fall sowing in southern Russia and Ukraine provided beneficial moisture for emerging winter crops. Winterkill was relatively low for the second consecutive year in both Ukraine and Russia. There was a brief episode of bitterly cold weather in mid-December in eastern Ukraine, the lower Volga Valley, and the northern tip of the North Caucasus, during which temperatures in dipped to nearly -30 degrees Celsius. In most key winter-wheat areas, snow cover was adequate to protect crops from the low temperatures, but in parts of southern Ukraine and the North Caucasus where snow cover was patchy, the frigid weather reportedly caused damage to winter grains—especially winter barley, which is less resistant than other winter grains to extreme cold.

Mark Lindeman, Regional Analyst
Phone: (202) 690-0143
E-mail: lindeman@fas.usda.gov

CHART 1

Russia: Estimated Area of Winter Grains

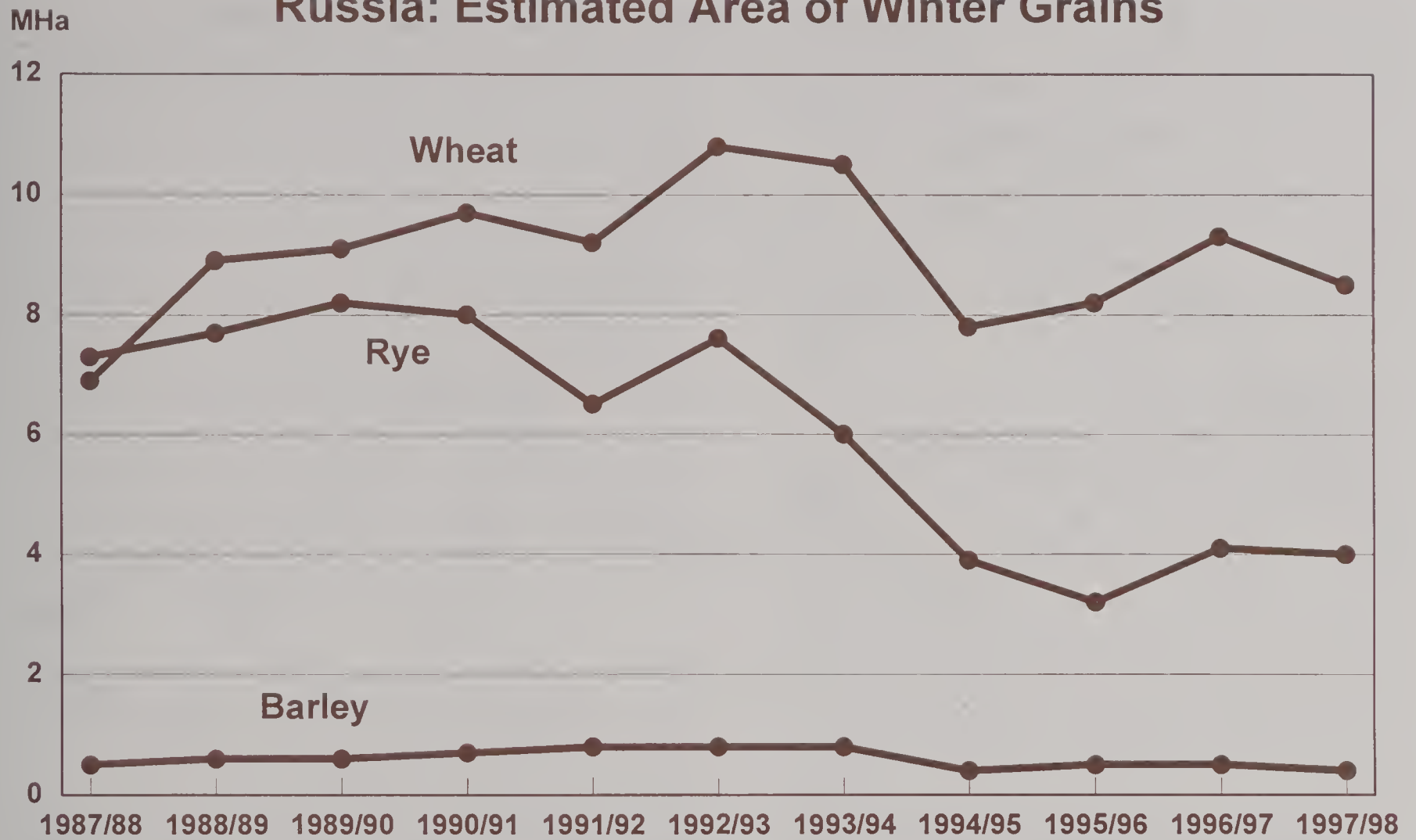


CHART 2

Russia: Sown Winter-Grain Area by Region

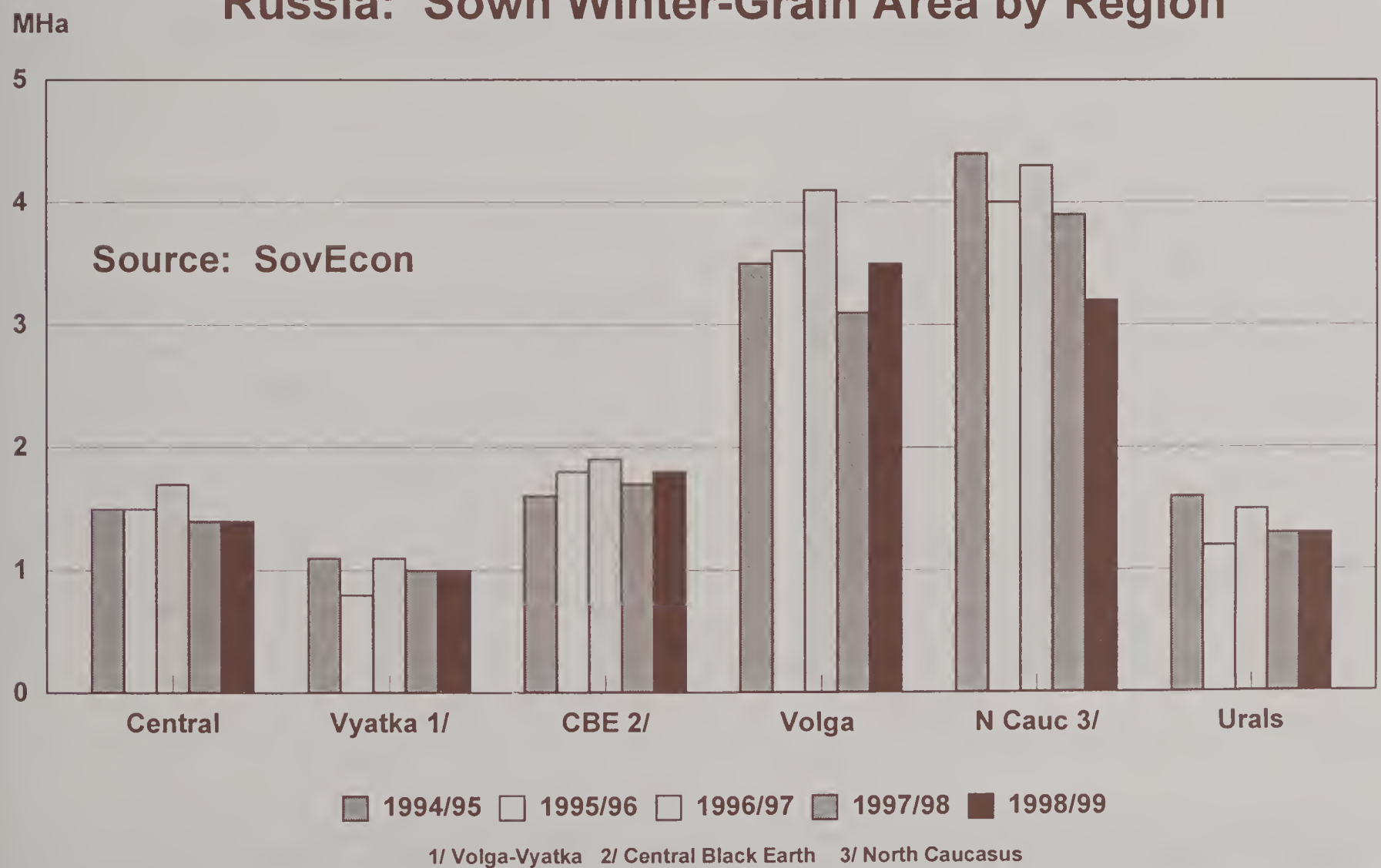


CHART 3

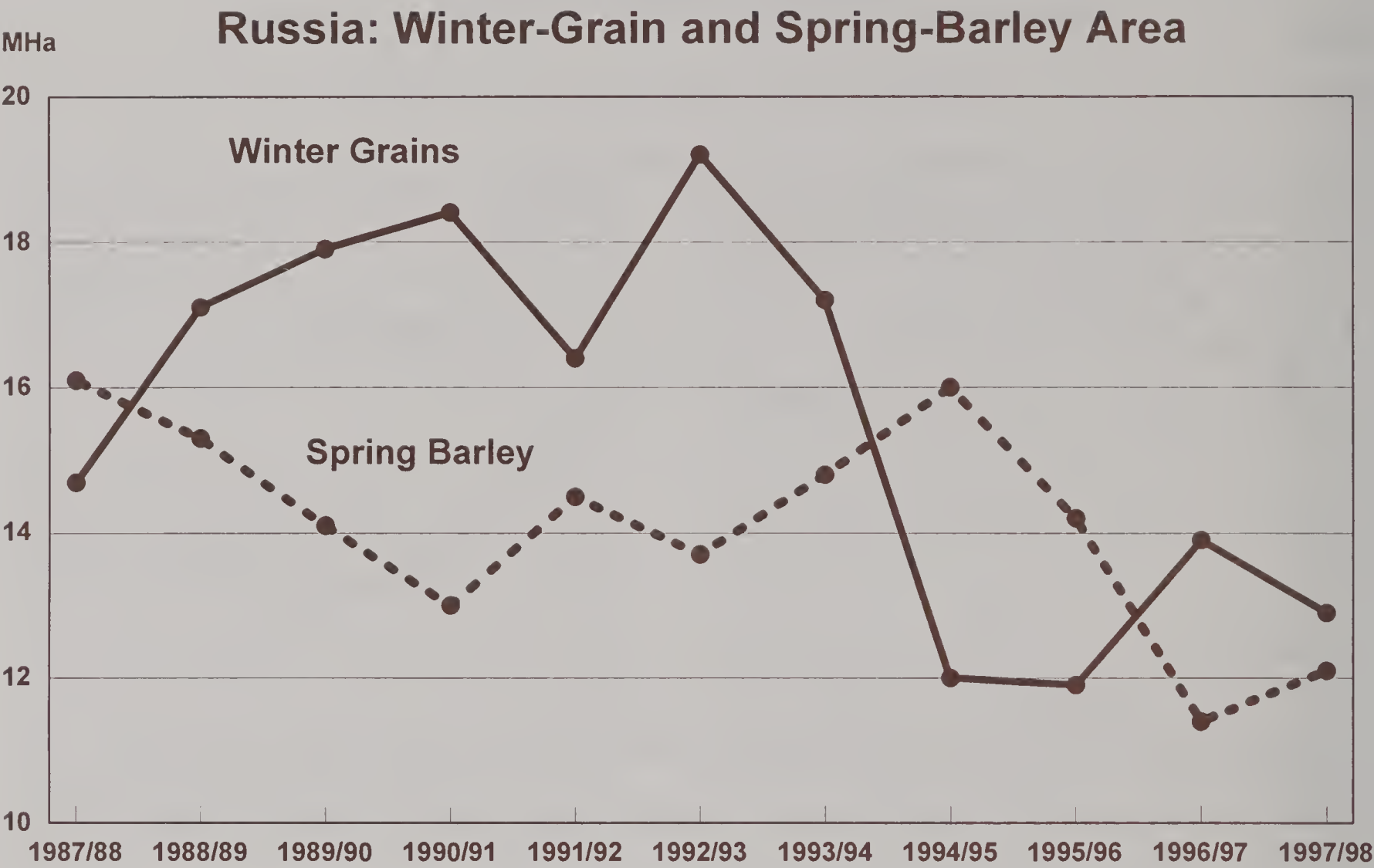
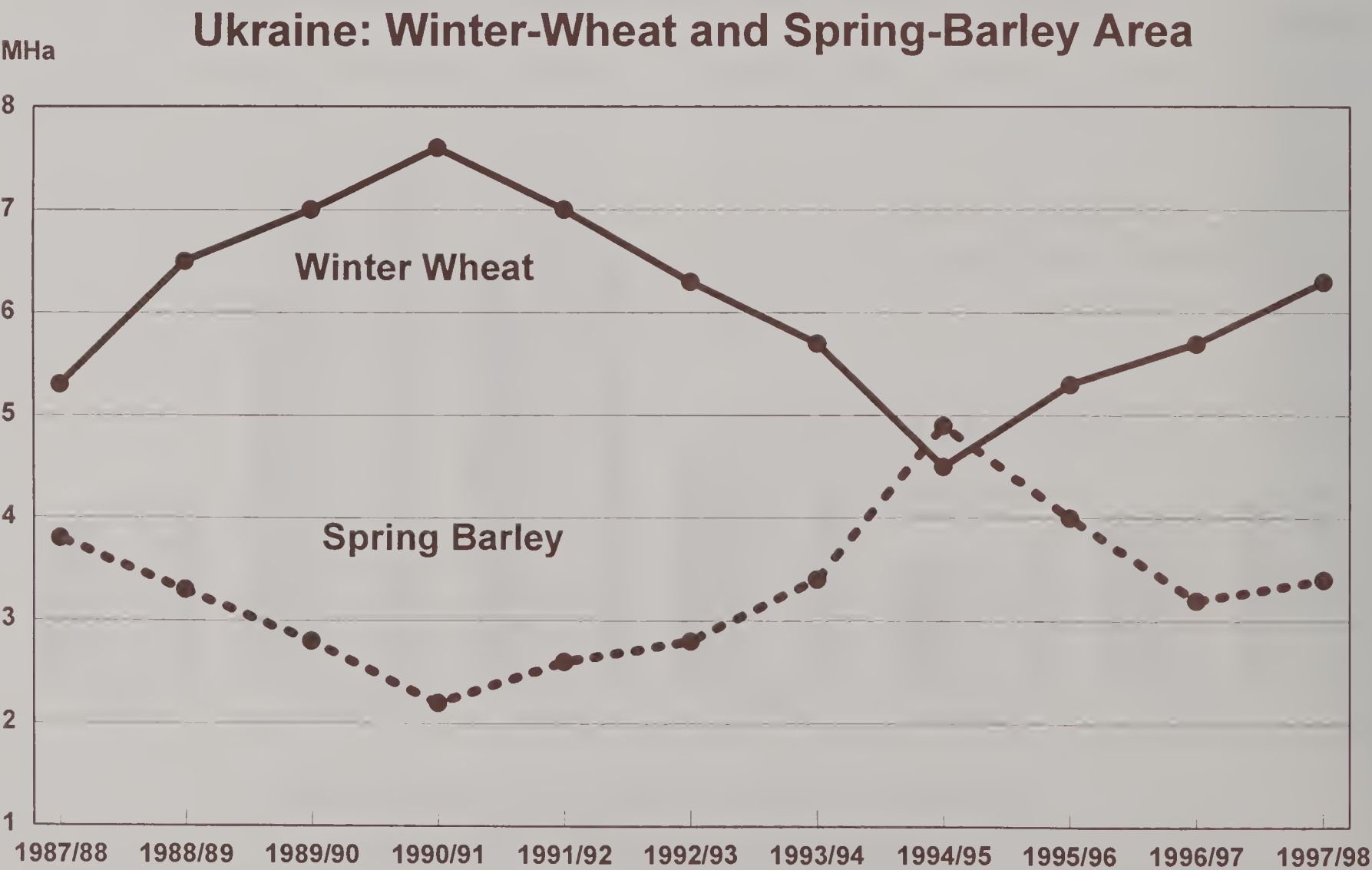


CHART 4



PARAGUAYAN COTTON SITUATION

Paraguay, South America's third largest cotton-producing country, is estimated to produce 500,000 bales of cotton for 1997/98, well above the poor crop of 207,000 bales last year, when area was the lowest since at least 1980/81. Harvest operations are now underway in the northern cotton growing regions. New area surveys show that the actual harvested area will total about 220,000 hectares, down from the 275,000 previously estimated, and just more than one-half planned by the Government's Agricultural Sector Reactivation Program. Despite this gap between early-season expectations and projected final output, this year's crop should be more than twice as large as that of 1996/97, representing an important rebound for the nation's cotton industry.

Growing conditions for cotton were good this year, as indicated by exceptionally high early-yield results. The improved yields are due in part to generally favorable growing conditions without planting delays, better seeds and other inputs such as pesticides, and government-supplied technical assistance which resulted in more widespread adoption of improved cultivation methods. Some dry spells were recorded, most notably in the Provinces of Chaco and Concepcion where lower yields are projected. Boll weevils were observed, but reportedly attacked at a time when their impact were not highly detrimental to the plant.

In recent days, rainfall has been heavy and humidity high. If this climactic pattern continues, fiber quality and yield, which has been good so far this season, could be reduced. With expected lower Brazilian demand, higher Argentine production and greater world stocks market opportunities may contract for Paraguayan cotton. The local currency has been weaker, which could provide some support for cotton exports. The Government has not (and may not) set a reference cotton price despite calls by some groups concerned about low cotton prices. Thus, gin owners are

now offering a somewhat wide range of prices to the farmer. In response, some cotton producers are calling for direct sales to Brazil to bypass the local gins and take advantage of reported higher prices in that country. However, competition from Argentina may restrict this option. Although there are some efforts to promote spinning of cotton domestically, the majority of Paraguay's output will again be exported as fiber.

The cotton industry in Paraguay has declined in recent years, as several negative factors have concurrently reduced profitability and output. Principle among these have been the inability of lower income farmers to obtain sufficient credit, lack of quality inputs such as good seed, lack of mechanization, and adverse weather. This year's turnaround may signal a reversal of the trend for several reasons. The first of these is an increased role of the government in providing technical assistance and credit to farmers. This has resulted in widespread adoption of improved cultural practices. Such efforts reflect the government recognition of the importance of cotton production as income for small farmers since 20 percent of the population depends on cotton for their livelihood. Second, increased emphasis is being placed on mechanizing cotton production, a method which has demonstrated significantly higher yields. About 10 percent of cotton area is currently under this type of production, with a goal of an additional 2-5 percent increase per year. Although all cotton area in Paraguay is not well suited for mechanization, this program should prove to notably increase output. Third, high quality seeds were generally more available this year than in previous years and other input use was reportedly up. Still, improvements are likely to come slowly as many small farmers do not have the means or the credit to adopt new production methods, and many of the fields are too small for efficient use of mechanization.

John Turner, Regional Analyst
Telephone: (202) 690-0138
E-mail: turnerj@fas.usda.gov

CHART 5

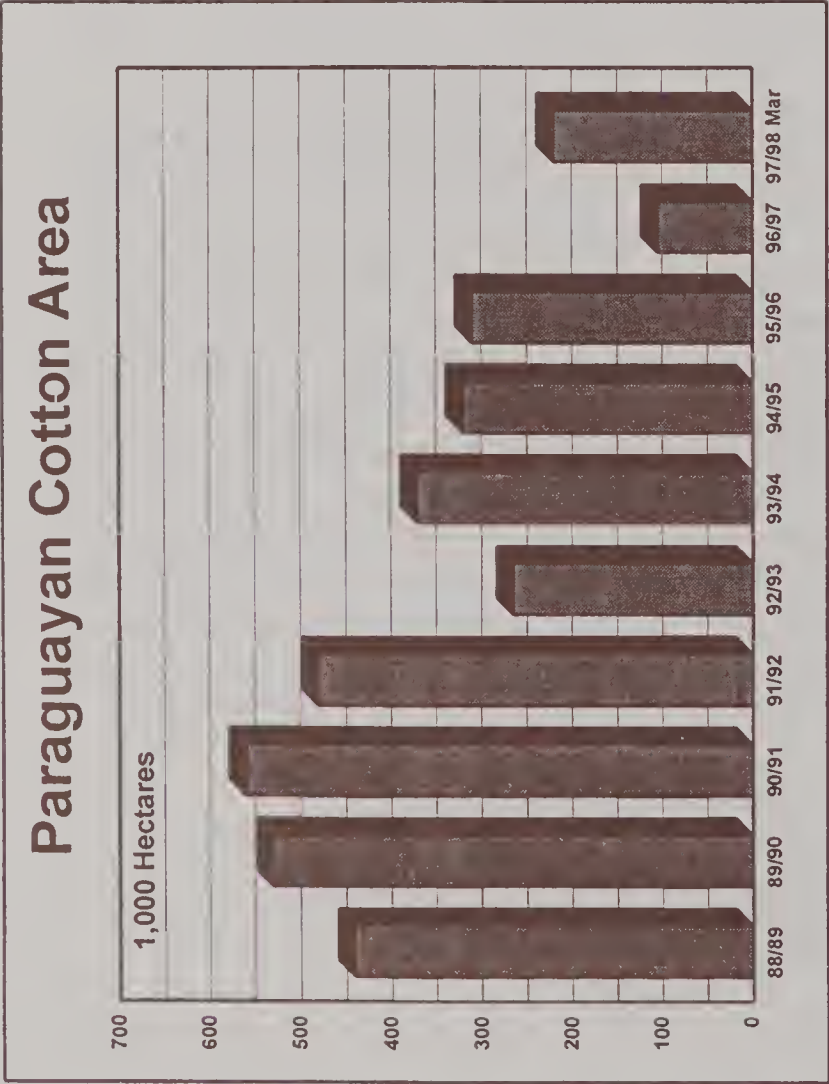


CHART 6

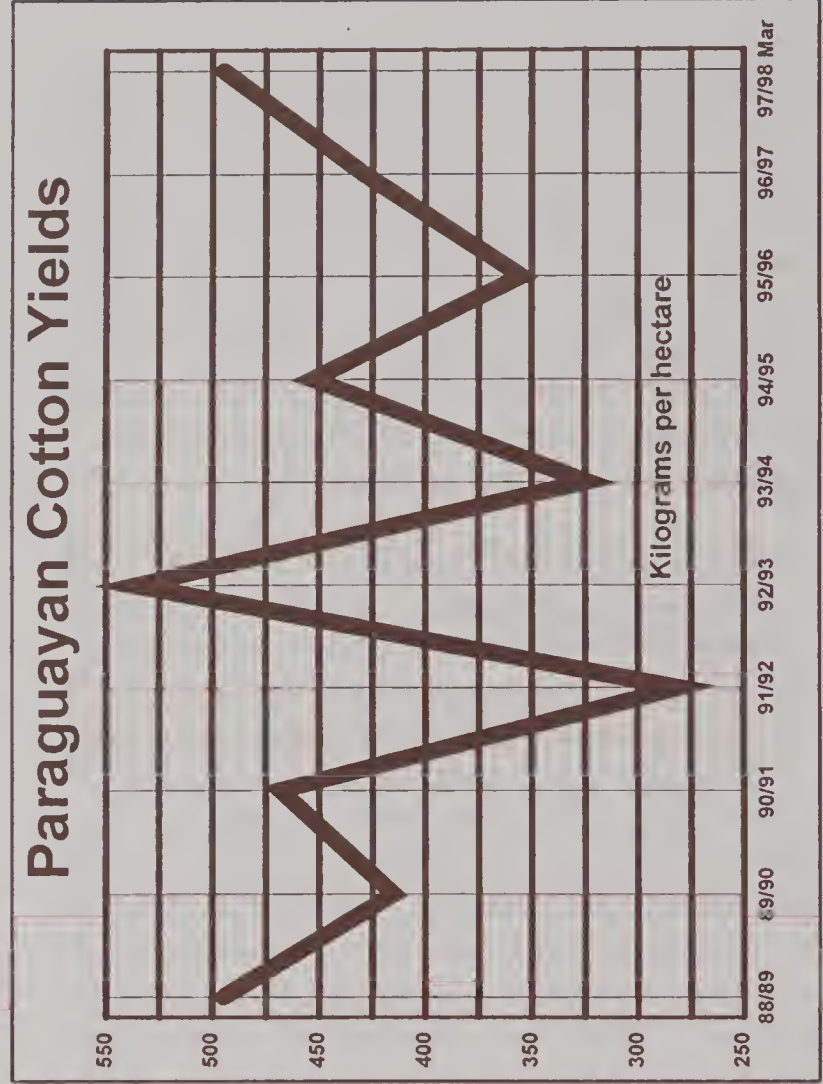


CHART 7

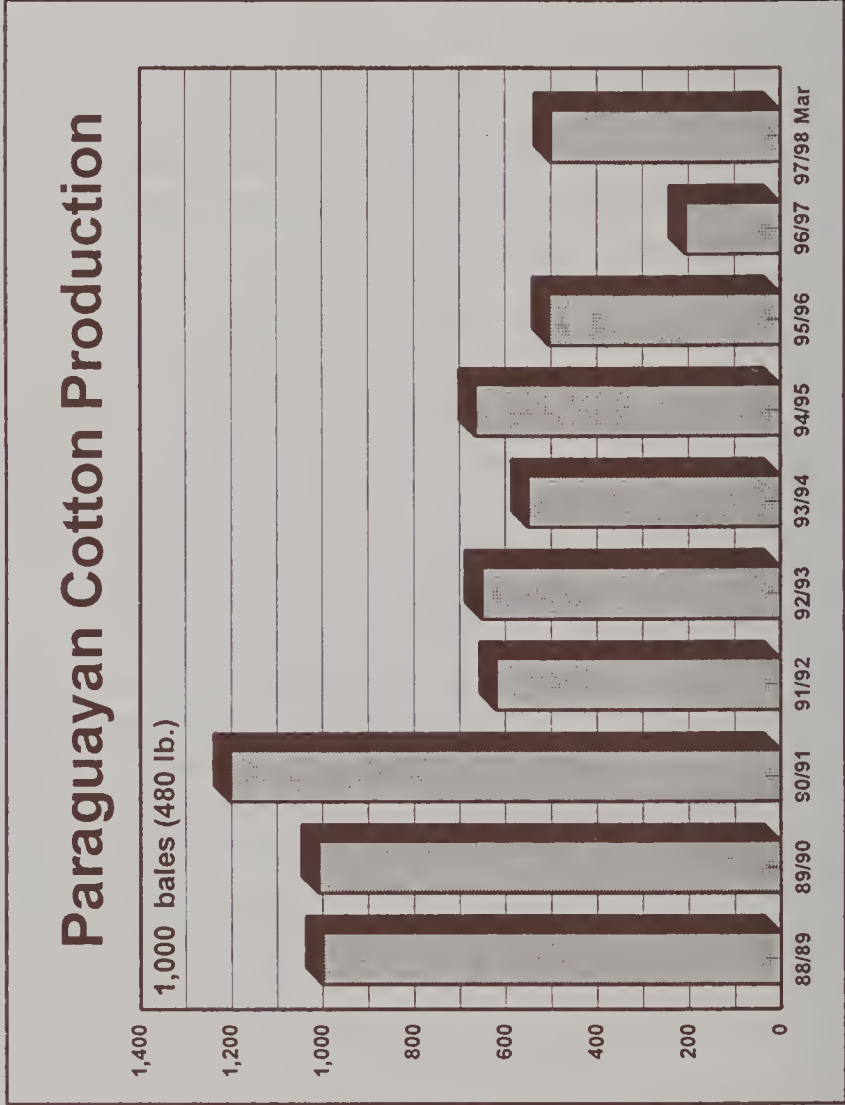


TABLE 20

Paraguayan Cotton Area, Yield and Production Data			
Marketing Year	Area (1,000 Hectares)	Yield Kg/ha	Production (1,000 Bales)
1988/89	440	495	1,001
1989/90	530	415	1,010
1990/91	560	468	1,203
1991/92	480	281	620
1992/93	265	536	652
1993/94	370	324	551
1994/95	320	453	666
1995/96	310	355	505
1996/97	105	429	207
1997/98 Mar	220	495	500

NORTHWEST AFRICA WINTER GRAIN SITUATION

This article presents early indications of Northwest African (Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia) winter grain prospects based on reports from U.S. agricultural attaches and analysis by Washington-based USDA personnel. The first forecast of 1998/99 area, yield, and production for grains will be published in the May World Agricultural Production circular.

Total winter grain (wheat and barley) production in Northwest Africa for 1997/98 was 5.5 million tons, down dramatically from the record 16.0 million in 1996/97. Generally, winter grain planting begins in November with the onset of seasonal rains, and can continue until the beginning of January. The crop is in the heading stage during March and April, with harvest underway in May and finishing in June. Rainfall is the primary factor affecting winter grain yields. Drought during the 1997/98 season led to significantly reduced production in Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia. For the 1998/99 crop, early-season rains were timely and adequately supported planting and crop establishment. Currently, soil moisture reserves are unfavorably low in Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia, necessitating timely rains during the remainder of the growing season to prevent declines in yield prospects.

Morocco: Arable land in Morocco accounts for roughly 20 percent of total area, more than half of which is devoted to winter grains (wheat and barley). Farmers will plant more winter grains if there are good rains at the beginning of the planting season. Although wheat and barley planting operations may start as early as September, many farmers wait until after the first rains in October/November before planting. Durum tends to be produced in the North, where there is more rainfall. Barley, because of its hardiness, is primarily grown in the more marginal areas and in the dry southern growing regions. Grain production depends heavily on rainfall because little is irrigated. Moroccan rainfall is characterized by wide fluctuations, which impact grain supplies and ultimately the Moroccan economy.

For 1997/98, winter grain production was 3.4 million tons, down from the 1996/97 record of 9.7 million. For 1998/99, growing conditions were dry in most producing regions during

October, however above-normal rainfall in November allowed widespread sowing of the crop in northern areas. In December and January, northern growing areas have experienced excellent weather, providing optimal conditions for emergence, tillering, and jointing. In the southern growing regions adequate autumn rainfall levels provided sufficient topsoil moisture for land preparation and planting; however, precipitation levels lessened in some areas during December and January. Dry weather since early-February has diminished soil moisture levels for crop development. Final output will be dependent on rains in March and April, when the crop advances through the reproductive and filling stage.

Algeria: The primary winter grain crops, wheat and barley, are planted on about 40 percent of Algeria's available agricultural land and contribute roughly 25 percent of the value of total agricultural output. Agricultural production is hampered by numerous problems including civil strife, shortage of inputs, a poorly educated rural population, and an underdeveloped infrastructure. The agricultural sector has suffered neglect in favor of the industrial sector, thwarting the development of irrigation systems and leaving the agricultural sector highly dependent on rainfall. The best crop conditions are in areas where farmers use advanced planting techniques such as adequate plowing and mechanical seeders (versus manual seeders). Nearly half of the country's winter grain crop is grown in the eastern portion of the country, more than a third is produced in the west, and the remainder is grown in the central region.

For 1997/98, winter grain production is estimated at 1.1 million tons, down from the bumper 1996/97 crop of 3.5 million. For 1998/99, the growing season began with substantial rains in October, prompting early planting in some northeastern growing areas. However, rainfall became scarce over the next several months, taxing soil moisture reserves. In February, occasional showers eased the persistent dryness. Additional moisture is needed for the winter grain crop as it reaches heading and continues into grain fill, especially in the central and western regions where

several months, taxing soil moisture reserves. In February, occasional showers eased the persistent dryness. Additional moisture is needed for the winter grain crop as it reaches heading and continues into grain fill, especially in the central and western regions where moisture has been most scarce.

Tunisia: Total cultivated area in Tunisia accounts for 25 percent of total land area, over a third is devoted to cereals. Winter grains are grown in the northern portion of the country, with seasonal rainfall serving as the primary factor influencing productivity. Production during the 1997/98 crop year was drastically reduced by drought. The crops are grown on the northern tip of the country with wheat occupying the better soils. Barley area can be expanded southward if the area receives sufficient precipitation at planting.

For 1997/98, winter grain production is estimated at 1.1 million tons, down from the 1996/97 record crop of 2.9 million. For the 1998/99 season, widespread rainfall in October provided sufficient topsoil moisture,

encouraging land preparation and early planting of winter grains. Rainfall in November supported emergence and establishment of the wheat and barley crops. In some localized areas excessive rains impeded sowing. However, farmers reportedly planted at night when the rains stopped or planted by hand when fields were too wet for access with machinery. The Tunisian government provided farmers with the incentive to plant as much area as possible by fixing fertilizer prices at last year's levels and providing subsidies, credits, and other benefits.

Brenda Presnall, Regional Analyst
Telephone: (202) 690-0139
E-mail: presnall@fas.usda.gov

CHART 8

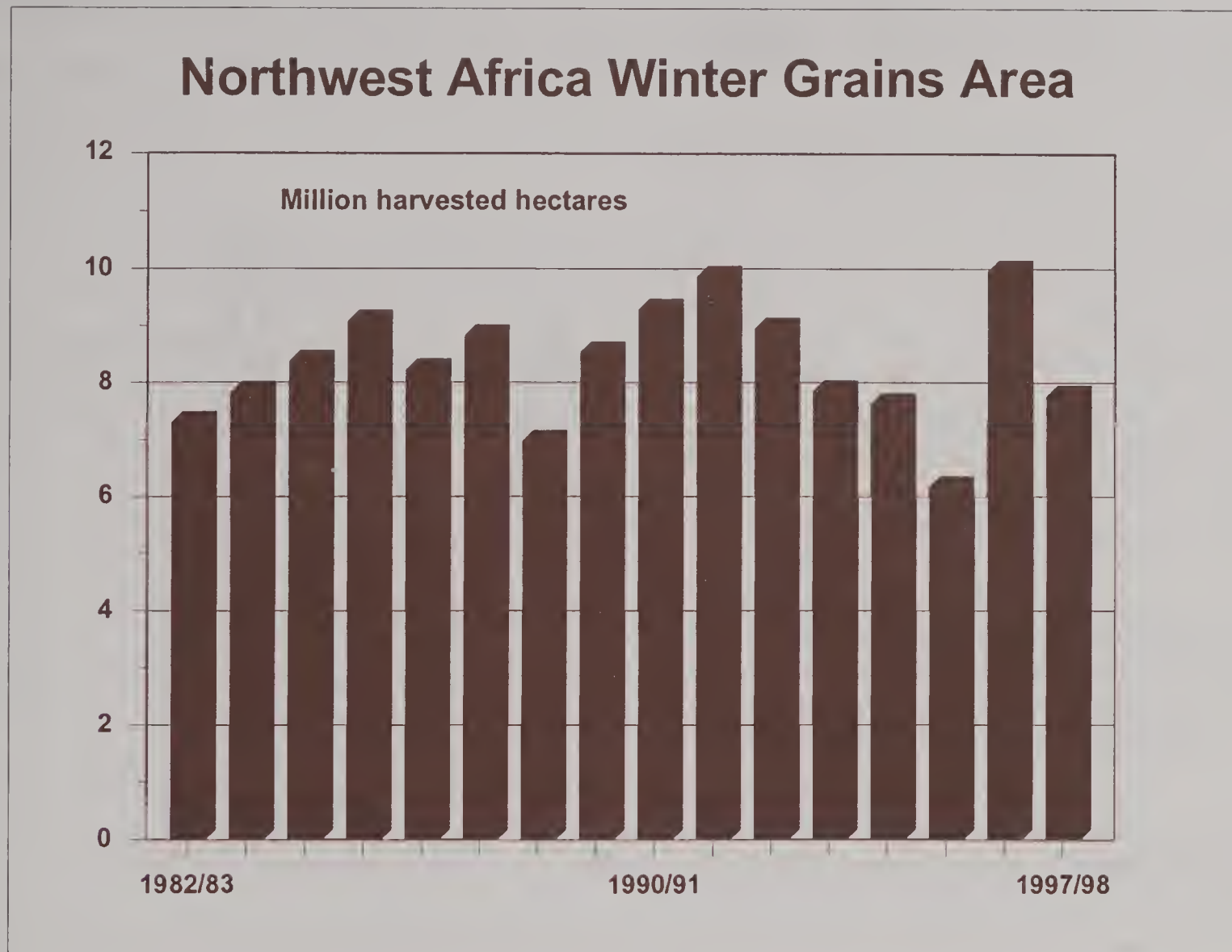
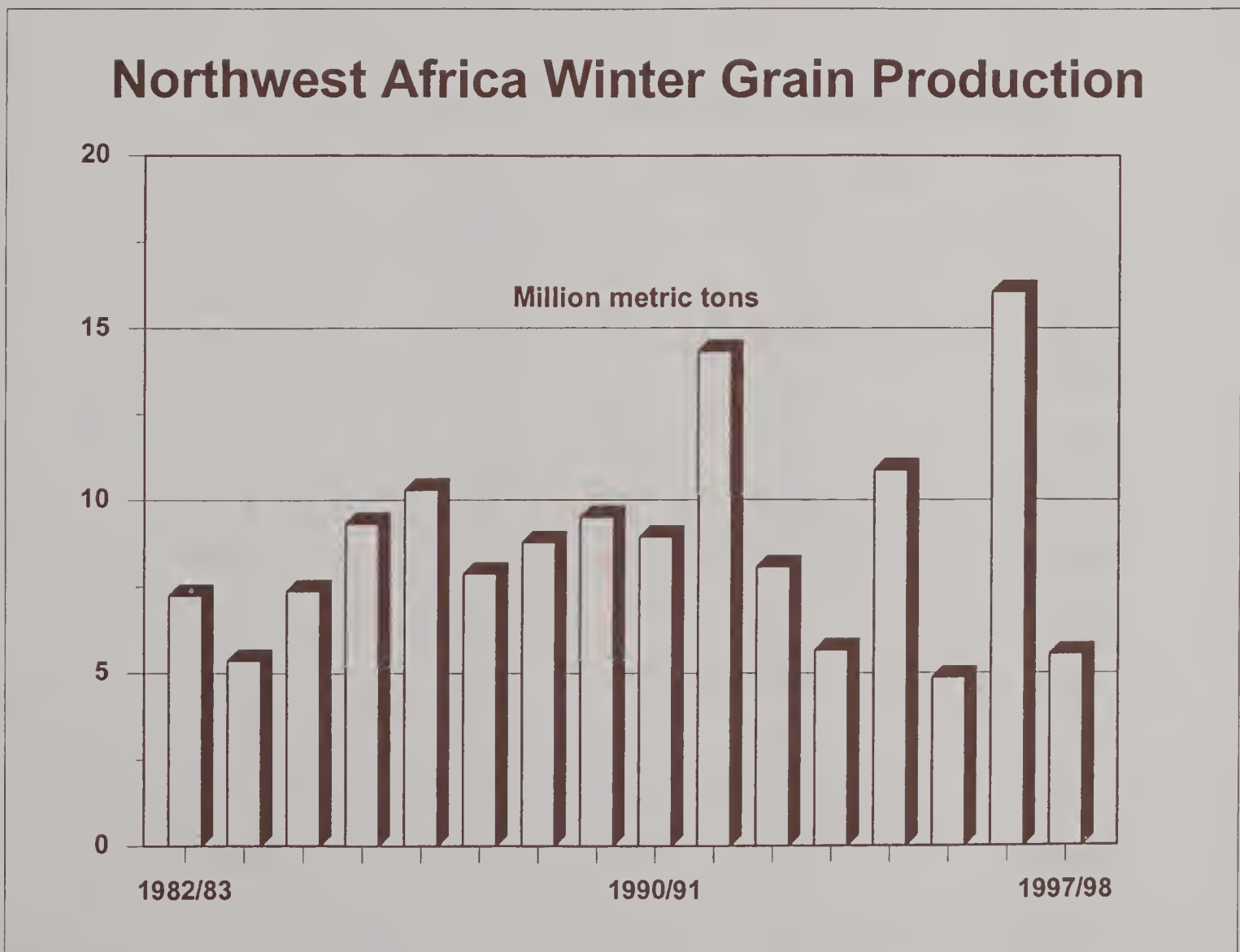


CHART 9



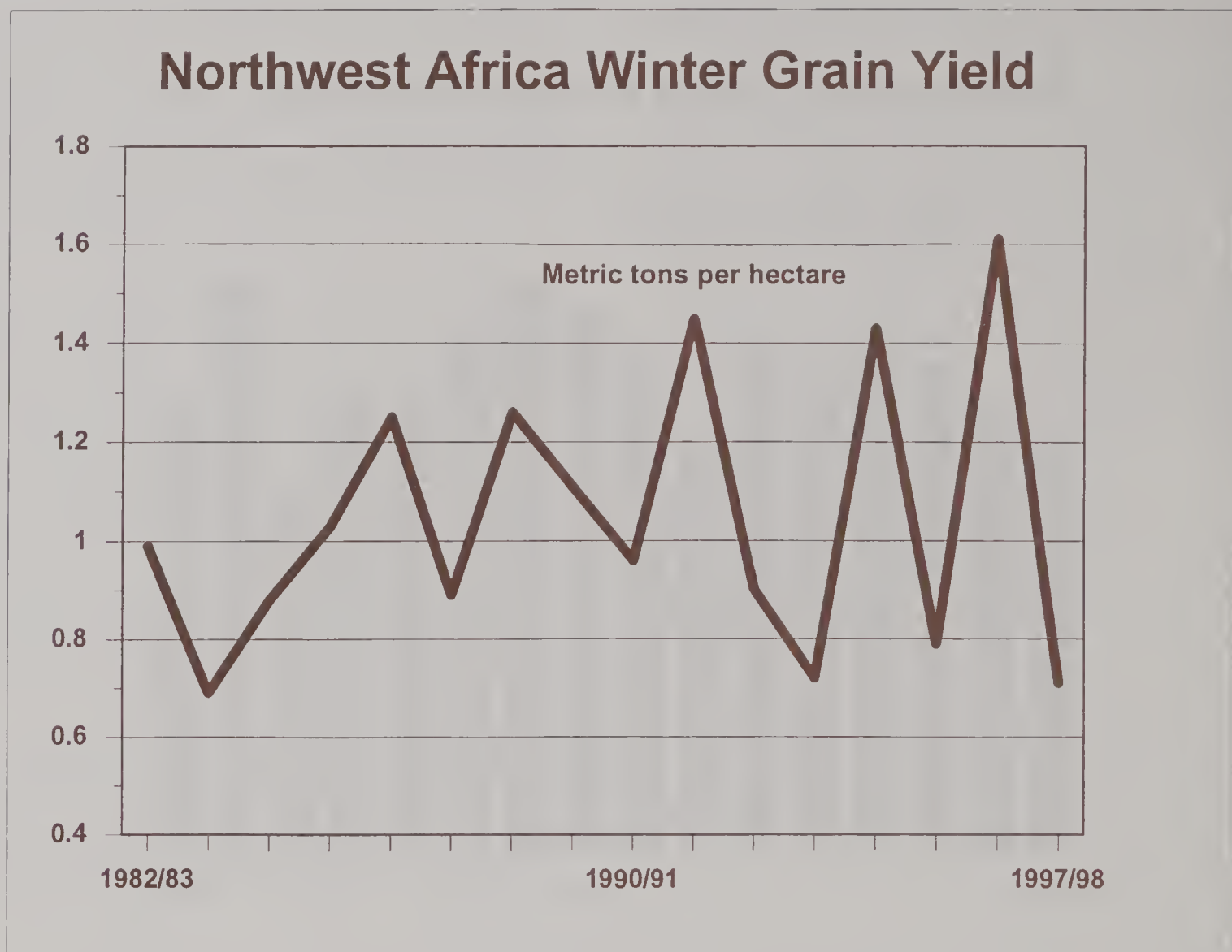


TABLE 21

Northwest Africa Winter Grains

	Harvested Area (MHa)	Yield (MT/Ha)	Production (MMT)
1982/83	7.29	0.99	7.23
1983/84	7.81	0.69	5.36
1984/85	8.36	0.88	7.36
1985/86	9.07	1.03	9.30
1986/87	8.21	1.25	10.29
1987/88	8.81	0.89	7.86
1988/89	6.96	1.26	8.76
1989/90	8.52	1.11	9.48
1990/91	9.27	0.96	8.92
1991/92	9.85	1.45	14.30
1992/93	8.94	0.90	8.05
1993/94	7.84	0.72	5.66
1994/95	7.61	1.43	10.87
1995/96	6.15	0.79	4.86
1996/97	9.95	1.61	16.05
1997/98	7.75	0.71	5.54

NTIS Order Form For FAS Subscriptions

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Technology Administration
National Technical Information Service
Springfield, VA 22161

To order subscriptions, call (703) 605-6060.
TDD (For hearing impaired only), call (703) 605-6043.

SHIP TO ADDRESS

CUSTOMER MASTER NUMBER (IF KNOWN)		DATE	
ATTENTION/NAME			
ORGANIZATION		DIVISION / ROOM NUMBER	
STREET ADDRESS			
CITY		STATE	ZIP CODE
PROVINCE / TERRITORY		INTERNATIONAL POSTAL CODE	
COUNTRY			
PHONE NUMBER ()		FAX NUMBER ()	
CONTACT NAME		INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS	



(703) 605-6060
or fax this form to (703) 321-9467

To verify receipt of your fax order, call (703) 605-6060.

METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE

CARDHOLDER'S NAME

SIGNATURE (REQUIRED TO VALIDATE ALL ORDERS)

☐ Check/Money Order enclosed for \$ (PAYABLE IN U.S. DOLLARS)

☐ NTIS Deposit Account Number:

RETURN POLICY

Although NTIS cannot accept returns for credit or refund, we will gladly replace any item you requested if we made an error in filling your order, if the item was defective, or if you receive it in damaged condition. Just call our Subscription Department at (703) 605-6060.

SINGLE COPIES

To order single copies, call our Sales Desk at 1-800-553-NTIS (6847) or (703) 605-6000. Order via the Internet: orders@ntis.fedworld.gov. RUSH Service is available for an additional fee; please call the NTIS Sales Desk.

NO. OF SUBSCRIPTIONS	ORDER NO.	TITLES	PRICES*		TOTAL
			DOMESTIC	INTERNATIONAL	
	SUB9706LJX	Agricultural Trade Highlights (12 issues)	\$ 65.00	\$ 110.00	
	SUB9707LJX	Tropical Products (Coffee, Cocoa, Spices, Essentials Oils) (4 issues)	30.00	60.00	
	SUB9708LJX	Cotton: World Markets & Trade (12 issues)	75.00	142.00	
	SUB9709LJX	Dairy, Livestock & Poultry: U.S. Trade & Prospects (12 issues)	98.00	214.00	
	SUB9710LJX	Dairy Monthly Imports (12 issues)	65.00	110.00	
	SUB9711LJX	Livestock & Poultry: World Markets & Trade (2 issues)	21.00	42.00	
	SUB9739LJX	Dairy: World Markets & Trade (2 issues)	21.00	42.00	
	SUB9712LJX	All 28 Dairy, Livestock & Poultry reports	170.00	356.00	
	SUB9713LJX	Grain: World Markets & Trade (12 issues)	90.00	180.00	
	SUB9714LJX	World Horticultural Trade & U.S. Export Opportunities (12 issues)	90.00	180.00	
	SUB9715LJX	Oilseeds: World Markets & Trade (12 issues)	98.00	196.00	
	SUB9716LJX	U.S. Planting Seed Trade (13 issues)	55.00	115.00	
	SUB9717LJX	Sugar: World Markets & Trade (2 issues)	25.00	50.00	
	SUB9718LJX	Tobacco: World Markets & Trade (12 issues)	80.00	182.00	
	SUB9719LJX	World Agricultural Production (12 issues)	95.00	160.00	
	SUB9734LJX	Wood Products: International Trade & Foreign Markets (5 issues)	55.00	118.00	
	SUB9735LJX	Monthly Summary of Export Credit Guarantee Program Activity (12 issues)	70.00	120.00	
	SUB9736LJX	U.S. Export Sales (52 issues)	175.00	320.00	
	SUB9737LJX	AgExporter Magazine (12 issues)	51.00	59.00	

Also available — these special one-time reports

	PB96-136403LJX	Food & Agricultural Export Directory	\$19.50	\$39.00	
	PB96-196787LJX	World Horticultural Trade & U.S. Export Opportunities (Supp. 1-Exports)	21.50	43.00	
	PB96-196795LJX	World Horticultural Trade & U.S. Export Opportunities (Supp. 2-Imports)	25.00	50.00	
	PB96-196761LJX	A Guide to Exporting: Solid Wood Products	28.00	56.00	
	PB88-240296LJX	Dictionary of International Agricultural Trade (1988 ed.)	31.50	53.00	

Prices are subject to change.

The NTIS Subscription Dept. (703) 605-6060
can provide pricing verification.

* Prices include first-class delivery or equivalent
service for domestic (U.S., Canada, and Mexico);
airmail delivery for international (all other countries).

GRAND TOTAL

Please PRINT or TYPE

FAS Publications

The publications described below present timely, reliable information on numerous commodities. They are available by subscription through the National Technical Information Service, (703) 487-4630 or (703) 487-4639 (hearing impaired).

Agricultural Trade Highlights

This monthly report provides a unique overview of U.S. agricultural exports. Each issue contains a summary of current trade statistics and the latest trade policy and marketing developments, along with in-depth analysis of country markets and consumer food exports. It often carries articles on topics of special interest to the export trade.

Tropical Products: World Markets and Trade

This publication, issued four times a year, provides information on world production, supply, and demand for coffee and cocoa. It also presents U.S. trade data on spices and essential oils.

Cotton: World Markets and Trade

This monthly report provides statistics and other information on U.S. and world production, supply, demand, and trade for cotton. It also covers crop conditions, trade policy developments, and export markets.

Dairy, Livestock, and Poultry: U.S. Trade and Prospects

This monthly report provides U.S. trade information and analysis for dairy, livestock, and poultry products.

Dairy Monthly Imports

This report covers imports of cheese and other quota dairy products subject to licensing, and imports under the quota not subject to licensing.

Dairy: World Markets and Trade

This semi-annual publication provides information on U.S. and world production, use, and trade for dairy products. It also covers trade policy developments and export markets.

Livestock and Poultry: World Markets and Trade

This semi-annual publication provides information on U.S. and world production, use, and trade for livestock and poultry products. It also covers trade policy developments and export markets.

Grain: World Markets and Trade

This monthly report provides information on U.S. and world production, supply, demand, and trade for a variety of grains. It also covers trade policy developments and export markets.

World Horticultural Trade and U.S. Export Opportunities

This monthly publication provides information on the world situation and outlook for horticultural products. It covers export competition, foreign market import potential, trade policy developments, and export opportunities for U.S. products.

Oilseeds: World Markets and Trade

This monthly publication provides data and analysis on U.S. and world production, supply, use, and trade for a variety of oilseeds and products. It also covers prices and export markets.

U.S. Planting Seed Trade

This report, issued 13 times a year, provides information on U.S. trade for planting seeds. It also covers trade policy developments and export markets.

Sugar: World Markets and Trade

This semi-annual publication provides information on world production, supply, and demand for sugar. It includes in-depth special country features. The November issue presents the honey situation and outlook in selected countries.

Tobacco: World Markets and Trade

This monthly report provides information on U.S. and world production, supply, demand, and trade for tobacco. It covers crop estimates, trade policy developments, and export markets. The March issue contains complete U.S. tobacco trade data for the preceding calendar year.

World Agricultural Production

This monthly report provides information on U.S. and world production of major agricultural products, including crop and livestock estimates, weather and production briefs, and special articles on important trade topics.

Wood Products: International Trade and Foreign Markets

This report, issued five times a year, provides information on production, trade, supply, and demand for wood products around the world. It highlights trade policy developments, export statistics, and market information of interest to U.S. exporters.

Monthly Summary of Export Credit Guarantee Program Activity

This report shows fiscal-year commitment figures for the Commodity Credit Corporation's Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-102), Intermediate Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-103), and Supplier Credit Guarantee Program.

U.S. Export Sales

This weekly report is based on information from private exporters. Outstanding export sales and other data give a snapshot view of the current contracting scene. All countries with outstanding sales or accumulated exports are included for all wheat, each class of wheat, wheat products, corn, soybeans, soybean cake and meal, American pima cotton, all upland cotton, whole cattle hides, and wet blues.

AgExporter Magazine

This monthly magazine for businesses selling agricultural products abroad provides tips on exporting, descriptions of markets with significant sales potential, and information on export assistance available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The magazine's audience includes U.S. agricultural producers, processors, exporters, trade organizations, state departments of agriculture, and others interested in the export scene.

Food and Agriculture Directory

This publication features listings of federal and state agencies, trade associations, and a host of other organizations that can help U.S. enterprises penetrate foreign markets. It includes contact phone and fax numbers. ■

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
1400 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE, SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20250-1004

For questions concerning your subscription or change of address,
PRINT OR TYPE the new address, including ZIP code and return this
sheet to:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICE
SPRINGFIELD, VA 22161

For questions or concerns on the data included in this publication,
contact us at the address shown above.



Summaries and selected tables from many Foreign Agricultural Service world market and trade reports are available electronically. The reports include U.S. Export Sales (available electronically after 8:30 a.m. on release day); Grain: World Markets and Trade; Oilseeds: World Markets and Trade; Cotton: World Markets and Trade; Tobacco: World Markets and Trade; World Agricultural Production; the early release version of

World Horticultural Products and U.S. Export Opportunities; and Tropical Products: World Markets and Trade (all available electronically after 3:00 p.m. Washington DC time on release day) as well as Sugar: World Markets and Trade; Livestock and Poultry: World Markets and Trade; Dairy: World Markets and Trade, and U.S. Planting Seed Trade (available within a week after release.)

You can read the reports on the FAS home page (<http://www.fas.usda.gov>). The reports remain "current" until the next issue is available. Older issues are available in the archives section of the home page. We also make selected cover articles and graphics available from these publications, in a separate section of the site.

For more information on the FAS home page, contact Glenn Kaup, tel. (202) 720-3329; fax. (202) 720-3229; or via e-mail kaup@fas.usda.gov.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-5964 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."